

# THE ASYLUM

*Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*

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Volume XIV, No. 1

Summer, 1996

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A CONTEST: OPEN TO ALL NUMISMATIC BIBLIOMANIA MEMBERS

*See Details on Page 3*

The Two Winners Will Receive a Book Written by  
Eric P. Newman, Signed and Inscribed to Each Recipient

"A precious mouldering pleasure 'tis  
To meet an Antique Book  
In just the Dress his Century wore  
A privilege I think."

— EMILY DICKINSON,  
POEM, C. 1862



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## THE ASYLUM

Vol. XIV, No. 1

Consecutive Issue No. 53

Summer, 1996

Editor: George F. Kolbe  
P. O. Drawer 3100, Crestline, CA 92325

### Advertising Rates

Full Page . . . . .	\$60.00
Inside Front, Inside or Outside Back Cover . . . . .	65.00
Half Page . . . . .	35.00
Quarter Page . . . . .	20.00
Classified . . . . .	10¢ per word, minimum 2.50

*The Asylum* is published quarterly. Manuscripts submitted to the editor should be accompanied, if possible, by a Macintosh-compatible disk.

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**N. B. S. Membership:** \$15.00 annual dues in North America, \$20.00 elsewhere. Members receive all issues of the current volume. Requests for membership should be submitted to Frank Van Zandt, 6032 Van Zandt Road, Livonia, NY 14487.



### *President's Message...*

I wish to thank George Kolbe for his fine work in getting out two issues of *The Asylum* so quickly. It is up to the rest of us to make George's job easier by submitting articles.

We will have a table at this year's A. N. A. convention in Denver. It will be in the Club Kiosk area, table number 1047. I hope all members attending will give us a hand at manning the table.

The Numismatic Literature Symposium will be held on Thursday, August 15th, at 8 P.M. I will be speaking on the topic: Numismatic Myths and the Literature That Created Them or Put an End to Them.

The annual meeting of NBS will take place at 10:30 A.M. on Friday and at that time the Armand Champa and Aaron Feldman awards will be presented. I hope as many of you as possible will attend.

SEE YOU IN DENVER!

## **NEED YOUR HELP!**

### **DOUBLE DENOMINATION—SMALL SIZE—ERROR NOTES**

For an article on the "census" of these notes please send: type, serial number and condition. Absolute confidentiality!

### **ROBERT C. NARAMORE BANK NOTE DETECTOR:**

Any history or biographical data on the man.

Wall Card: condition, eyelet.

Cards: Complete set—condition, advertising imprint, color of back.

Boxed Set—condition, parts missing, color, wording, design.

Wallet—condition.

*Absolute Confidentiality!*

The information, data, census, will be published, but not the names of the owners, unless specific consent is given! Many many thanks for your cooperation! It is greatly appreciated!

**RAY ELLENBOGEN**

1840 HARWITCH ROAD, UPPER ARLINGTON, OHIO 43221

(614) 488-2935



# Developing Commentary and Observations on Differences between American and English Foreign Exchange Broadside having no Date or Place of Issue

Eric P. Newman

## *Editor's Note:*

You are invited to participate in a numismatic whodunit. Recently, Eric Newman sent copies of the two late eighteenth century broadsides reproduced elsewhere in this issue, accompanied by the following note: "Here is a real puzzle. I located the British broadside after getting the American one...Now you can give me clues to dating each."

It has been decided to make this a contest open to all NBS members. The best two responses will each receive a personally inscribed copy of a numismatic book written by Mr. Newman.

Please send your response to Broadside Contest Committee (BCC), care of the Editor. The best two answers will be published in a future issue of *The Asylum*. The contest deadline is November 1st, 1996.

As a starting point, Eric Newman's preliminary observations follow:

## **Special Characteristics of AMERICAN Broadside**

55 horizontal compartments

AMERICA is first in title and  
EUROPE is second

AMERICA compartments are  
placed at top

UNITED STATES is used under  
the AMERICA section indicating  
preparation of broadside after 1776

Explanation as to "real and  
imaginary monies" is copied from  
the British broadside

## **Special Characteristics of BRITISH Broadside**

56 horizontal compartments  
(Text says there are 60)

EUROPE is first in title and  
AMERICA is last

"AMERICA" compartments are  
placed at bottom

CONTINENT is used under the  
AMERICA section with NEW  
ENGLAND and VIRGINIA  
included as English, indicating  
preparation of the broadside  
before 1776



### Special Characteristics of AMERICAN Broadside (continued)

FEDERAL MONEY used indicating preparation of broadside after 1792

NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA, FLORIDA & CAYENE are no longer needed

FORT WILLIAM is substituted for CALCUTTA even though FORT WILLIAM was destroyed in 1757, then moved and rebuilt in another CALCUTTA location

INDIA substituted for MOGOL

NUREMBERG & DETTINGEN are no longer included

TRIESTE, AUGSBURG, & BLENHEIM are no longer included

FRANCFORT changed to FRANKFORT

DANTZIC changed to DANTZIG

ZURIC changed to ZURIG

APPENSEL changed to APPENSAL

LEIPSIG changed to LEIPSIC

TRIPOLY changed to TRIPOLI

### Special Characteristics of BRITISH Broadside (concluded)

CANADA is not listed under English possessions but under other control, indicating preparation of broadside prior to 1763 when CANADA became English

FLORIDA is not listed under English possessions but under other control, indicating preparation of broadside prior to 1763 when FLORIDA became English

Date of Tower Mint Assays not determinable from broadside

Capital A in "A" or "An" when used in front of the name of each coin

Printed hands as pointer are smaller than on the American broadside

Type font is different than the font used for the American Broadside

Fractions used for divisions of pence and not decimals in setting coin values



### Special Characteristics of AMERICAN Broadside (concluded)

PRESTE added under AUSTRIA  
[No such place as PRESTE has  
been located and this may be a  
typographical error for TRIESTE]

WISMUR is misspelled from  
WISMAR

ZUZ is misspelled from ZUG

PETERSBURG changed to  
PETERSBURGH

MACOA spelling is changed from  
MEACO

More coins listed under HOL-  
LAND, RUSSIA, LIVONIA and  
SIAM than in British broadside

French coins do not include  
CENTIME, DECIME or FRANC  
which were introduced in 1795

Some French coins are changed in  
value from British broadside

SETTLEMENTS or COLONIES  
replaces the word DOMINIONS in  
the last line

English long s (*f*) is properly used,  
indicating preparation of broad-  
side before 1799 when printed use  
of the long s was discontinued in  
the U. S.

MADRAS is spelled with one s  
instead of MADRASS

U. S. quarter eagles and quarter  
dollars were not struck until 1796  
but were fully described in the  
April 2, 1792 Mint Act

French spelling of half disme and  
disme as provided under April 2,  
1792 Act

No mention of U. S. legal tender or  
legal tender laws of 1793, 1795, etc.

Inclusion of copper coin indicates  
no legal tender matters were  
considered

Under ISLE OF MAN the penny is  
changed to imaginary even though  
its pennies were struck only in  
1758

#### AN IMPORTANT NOTE CONCERNING THE BROADSIDE REPRODUCTIONS

To facilitate comparison of the broadsides, portions of both are repro-  
duced on each side. Also, the final "AMERICA" section of the EUROPEAN  
broadside, entitled WEST-INDIES and CONTINENT, has been repositioned  
at the beginning.





508-40TH AVENUE N.E.  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55421-3833

PHONE 612 789 7070  
FAX 612 789 4747

## Announces Public Auction Sale No. 4. October 25 & 26, 1996. Featuring the Libraries of

Seymour Finkelstein, Helen & Bob Wallace, J. Farrington and a Midwest Couple.

Here are just a very few highlights of the actual sale contents.

Auction Catalogs. James Conder 1855 Priced & Named sale, 13 Kolbe hardbound sales, Wayne

Raymond's Account sales with costs & consignor names, Jenks, 8 of Stack's 15 rarest sales,  
Rare Priced & Named 1867 Mickleley sale. Books. Burns, Coole, Kahn, Akers, Milne,

O. Walker, Hobler, Duruy's History of Rome, Heath Counterfeit Detectors, Complete set of  
Red Books. Fixed Price Lists. Hess, Hesslein, Merkin and early Bowers Rare Coin Reviews.

Periodicals. Complete set of 17 Coin Topics by Raymond, Canada Coin News, Steigerwalt's Coin  
Journal, Brown's Curiosity Cabinet, Early Numismatist, SPMC, TAMMS and much more.

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## REPRINT OF A CLASSIC

*Priced and Named*  
Catalogue of the  
Numismatic Collection Formed by  
**Joseph J. Mickley**  
Sold by  
**W. Elliot Woodward**  
October 28-November 1, 1867

John W. Adams: "Perhaps the greatest U. S. Collection."

Copies of the legendary Mickley collection sale catalogue have been occasionally available at auction, yet to our knowledge, but a single example has been offered with the buyers' names recorded. The Champa Library boasted three Mickleys, but none was named. Likewise the McLachlan copy was priced but not named. A priced & named example is listed in the A.N.S. Dictionary Catalogue, but it is missing in action, thus often leaving researchers stymied in their pedigree work.

The Mickley catalogue, never before reprinted, is now available having been made from the one priced copy sold publicly. To ensure the readability of the sometimes faint handwriting, we have transcribed the hammer prices and buyers' names to a printed prices realized list of 21 pages which is bound in after the Woodward text. The reprint is 224 pages which includes the important text on both wrappers, is slightly larger than the original at 6x9", and is well bound in blue cloth. While we expect delivery of the bound volumes September 1, the blue-line proofs will be available for inspection at the Denver A.N.A. Convention - Table 348. A printing of 115 copies is offered as follows.

Blue cloth, edition of 100, until 9/20/1996 .....	\$85.00.
Blue cloth, edition of 100, after 9/20/1996 .....	\$100.00.
Half calf, raised bands, leather spine label, edition of 15 ..	\$190.00.

Available only from:

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Wenham, MA 01984

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Tel: (508) 468 2933

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## Wanted for Outright Purchase

- Out-of-print standard references on ancient and modern numismatics
  - Antiquarian books printed before 1800
  - Fine bindings
- Auction sale catalogs of important collections
  - Substantial runs of important periodicals

## Auction Consignments Wanted

- Important general or specialized libraries

## Auction Representation

- We will attend or have an agent at the major book sales in 1995-6. For a modest fee, we carefully examine all lots, offer our opinion of value, and execute your bids faithfully and with complete confidentiality, if desired.

## Selling

- We have a good stock of out-of-print books and selected in-print titles.
- We have a very good stock of U.S. and foreign auction sale catalogs.

## For sale at a special price

Castenholz and Sons Numismatic Booksellers: THE NUMISMATIC MESSENGER. Pacific Palisades, California. Complete set: Vol. 1, No. 1 through Vol. 2, No. 11 & 12 (Jan. 1971 through Dec. 1972). 24 numbers in 23 issues. Octavo. Card covers. *A quality publication offering authoritative articles, coins for sale, and their specialty, new and second-hand books. We have sold these in the past for \$40-50 per set. We have purchased the entire remaining hoard and can offer as new complete sets for \$30. We also have some sets with slight staple rust or other minor defects (these are perfect for binding) priced at \$20. Prices include postage in the U.S., overseas add \$5.*

**John F. Bergman Numismatic Literature**

**4223 Iroquois Ave. / Lakewood, CA 90713 / USA**

**Tel: 310-421-0171 • Fax: 310-421-2208**



## ITALY

ANCONA, FLORENCE, &c.	A Denari	4 Denari	=	A Quattrini	12 Denari	=	A Soldi	5 Quattrini	=	A Craci
ROME, Civita Vecchia, Ancona, &c.	A Quattrini	5 Quattrini	=	A Bayoc	8 Bayocs	=	A Julio	10 Bayocs	=	A Stampi Julio
NAPLES, Gaeta, Capua, &c.	A Quattrini	3 Quattrini	=	A Grain	10 Grains	=	A Carlin	40 Quattrini	=	A Paulo
SICILY and MALTA, Palermo, Messina, &c.	A Picchila	6 Picchila	=	A Grain	8 Picchili	=	A Ponti	10 Grains	=	A Carlin
BOLONGNA, Ravenna, &c.	A Quattrini	6 Quattrini	=	A Bayoc	10 Bayocs	=	A Julio	20 Bayocs	=	A Lire
VENICE, Bergamo, &c.	A Picoli	12 Picoli	=	A Soldi	6 1/2 Soldi	=	A Gros	18 Soldi	=	A Jule
TURKEY, MOREA, CANDIA, CYPRUS, &c.	A Mangar	4 Mangars	=	An Asper	3 Aspers	=	A Parac	5 Aspers	=	A Belfuc

## ARABIA, Medina, Mecca, Mocha, &amp;c.

ARABIA, Medina, Mecca, Mocha, &c.	A Carret	5 1/4 Carrets	=	A Caver	7 Carrets	=	A Cornafnee	80 Carrets	=	A Larin
PERSIA, Isfahan, Ormus, Gombroon, &c.	A Coz	4 Coz	=	A Biffi	10 Coz	=	A Shance	20 Coz	=	A Mamoda

## GUZURAT, Surat, Cambay, &amp;c.

GUZURAT, Surat, Cambay, &c.	A Pecka	2 Peckas	=	A Pice	4 Pices	=	A Fanam	5 Pices	=	A Viz
	A Budbrook	2 Budbrocks	=	A Re	5 Rez	=	A Pice	10 Pices	=	A Latree

## MALABAR

Goz, Visipour, &amp;c.

MALABAR	A Re	2 Rez	=	A Bazaraco	2 Bazaracos	=	A Pecka	20 Rez	=	A Vinin
	A Cash	5 Cash	=	A Viz	2 Viz	=	A Pice	6 Pices	=	A Pical

## BENGAL, Calicut, Calcutta, &amp;c.

BENGAL, Calicut, Calcutta, &c.	A Pice	4 Pices	=	A Panam	6 Pices	=	A Viz	12 Pices	=	An Ana
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## SIAM, Pegu, MALACCA, CAMBODIA, SUMATRA, JAVA, BORNEO, &amp;c.

SIAM, Pegu, MALACCA, CAMBODIA, SUMATRA, JAVA, BORNEO, &c.	A Cori	80 Cori	=	A Ferice	105 Ferices	=	A Sacleer	250 Ferices	=	A Socco
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## CHINA, Pekin, Canton, &amp;c.

CHINA, Pekin, Canton, &c.	A Caxa	10 Caxa	=	A Candereen	10 Candereens	=	A Mace	35 Candereens	=	A Rupce
	A Piti	20 Pitis	=	A Nlace	15 Maces	=	An Ounce Silver	20 Maces	=	A Tale

## JAPAN, Jedda, Meaco, &amp;c.

JAPAN, Jedda, Meaco, &c.	An Asper	3 Aspers	=	A Medin	24 Medins	=	An lial Ducat	80 Aspers	=	A Plafre
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## EGYPT, Old and New Cairo, Alexandria, Sayde, &amp;c.

EGYPT, Old and New Cairo, Alexandria, Sayde, &c.	An Asper	3 Aspers	=	A Medin	10 Aspers	=	A Rial old Plate	2 Rials	=	A Double
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## BARBARY, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, Uoa, &amp;c.

BARBARY, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, Uoa, &c.	A Fluce	24 Fluces	=	A Blanguil	4 Blanguils	=	An Ounce	7 Blanguils	=	An Oclavo
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## MOROCCO, Santa Cruz, Mequinez, Fez, Tangiers, Salce, &amp;c.

MOROCCO, Santa Cruz, Mequinez, Fez, Tangiers, Salce, &c.	A Fluce	24 Fluces	=	A Blanguil	4 Blanguils	=	An Ounce	7 Blanguils	=	An Oclavo
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## M O G O L

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A TABLE OF THE REAL & IMAGINARY MONIES  
OF  
AMERICA, EUROPE, ASIA, and AFRICA.  
With the intrinsic Value of the Coin of each Country, reduced to *Federal Money*.

NOTE. \* Distinguishes Imaginary Money. = Signifies, equal to.

The Figures under the different Species of foreign Coin, denote their Value in Federal Money; e. g. under a Ducat, are the Figures 1.3122, which signify, one Dollar, three Dimes, one Cent, two Mills, and two tenth Parts of a Mill.

UNITED STATES,		a Mill ⌞ .001	5 Mills or 1/2 Cent a half cent .005	10 Mills or 1 Cent or 1 cent .01	5 Cents 1 half dime .05	2 half Dimes 1 dime .10	25 Cents 1 quarter dollar .25	10 Dimes or 100 cents 1 dollar 1.00	2 Dollars and a half a quarter eagle 2.50	2 Quarter Eagles an half eagle 5.	2 Half Eagles an eagle 10.	
WEST-INDIES.	ENGLISH, JAMAICA, BARBADOES, &c.	a Halfpenny ⌞ .007	2 Halfpence = a Penny ⌞ .0132	7 Pence = a Bit ⌞ .0095	12 Pence = a Shilling ⌞ .1582	75 Pence = a Dollar ⌞ 1.	7 Shillings = a Crown ⌞ 1.10	20 Shillings = a Pound ⌞ 1.10	24 Shillings = a Pistole ⌞ 3.167	30 Shillings = a Guinea ⌞ 4.567		
	FRENCH, St. DOMINGO, MARTINICO, &c.	a Half-Sous ⌞ .0035	2 Half-Sous = a Sous ⌞ .007	7 1/2 Sous = a Half Scalin ⌞ .0496	15 Sous = a Scalin ⌞ .0995	20 Sous = a Livre ⌞ 1.354	7 Livres = a Dollar ⌞ 1.	8 Livres = an Ecu ⌞ 1.10	26 Livres = a Pistole ⌞ 3.722	32 Livres = a Louis d'Or ⌞ 4.444		
In the colonies belonging to France and England the currency is fluctuating, and alters according to the scarcity of gold and silver coins that are imported.												
ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.	London, Bristol, Liverpool, &c.	a Farthing ⌞ .0046	2 Farthings is a Halfpenny ⌞ .0093	2 Halfpence is a Penny ⌞ .0185	4 Pence is a Groat ⌞ .074	6 Pence is a half Shilling ⌞ .111	12 Pence is a Shilling ⌞ .222	5 Shillings is a Crown ⌞ 1.10	10s. 6d. is half a Guinea ⌞ 2.333	20 Shil. is a Pound Iterl. ⌞ 4.444	21 Shil. is a Guinea. ⌞ 4.667	
	Edinb. Glasgow, Aberdeen, &c.	a Farthing ⌞ .0039	2 Farthings = a Halfpenny ⌞ .0079	2 Halfpence = a Penny ⌞ .0159	7 Pence = a half Shilling ⌞ .111	12 Pence = a Shilling ⌞ .1904	14 Pence = a Shilling ⌞ .222	70 Pence = a Crown ⌞ 1.10	20 Shillings = a Pound ⌞ 3.808	24 1/2 Shillings = a Guine. ⌞ 4.667		
IRELAND, Dublin, Cork, Londonderry, &c.		a Farthing ⌞ .0045	2 Farthings = a Halfpenny ⌞ .009	2 Halfpence = a Penny ⌞ .017	6 Pence = a half Schelling ⌞ .111	12 Pence = a Shilling Irish ⌞ .205	13 Pence = a Shilling ⌞ .222	65 Pence = a Crown ⌞ 1.10	20 Shillings = a Pound Irish ⌞ 4.02	22 1/2 Shillings = a Guinea ⌞ 4.667		
FLANDERS and BRABANT.	Ghent, Oitend, &c.	a Pening ⌞ .001	4 Penings = an Urche ⌞ .0041	8 Penings = a Groat ⌞ .0083	2 Groots = a Schelling ⌞ .0167	6 Petards = a Scalin ⌞ 1.	7 Petards = a Scalin ⌞ .1167	40 Grotes = a Florin ⌞ .333	17 1/2 Scalins = a Ducat ⌞ 2.055	240 Grotes = a pound Flemish. ⌞ 2.		
	Antwerp, Brussels, &c.	a Pening ⌞ .00125	8 Penings = Groot ⌞ .01	2 Groots a Stiver or Stuyver ⌞ .02	5 1/2 Stuyvers = a Scethalt ⌞ .11	6 Stuyvers = Schelling ⌞ .12	20 Stuyvers = a Guilder ⌞ .40	28 Stuyvers = a Golden Florin ⌞ .56	3 Florins and 3 Stuyvers = a Ducatoon ⌞ 1.65			
HOLLAND and ZEALAND		50 Stuyvers = a Rix-dollar or Rix-dalhar Rix-dalhar 1. There are half-quarter Rix-dalhars 60 Stuyvers = a 3 Guilder piece, or 3 Florin piece 1.20 105 Stuyvers = a Ducat 2.10 6 Guilders or Florins = a Pound Flem. 2.40 7 Florins = a half Reyer 2.40 14 Florins = a Ryer or Ryder 7.84										
GERMANY.	Hamburg, Altena, Lubeck, Bremen, &c.		a Tryling ⌞ .0005	2 Trylings = a Sexling ⌞ .0009	2 Sexlings = a Fenning ⌞ .0017	12 Fennings = a Shilling lub ⌞ .0208	16 Shillings = a Marc ⌞ .333	2 Marcs = a Slet Dollar ⌞ .667	3 Marcs = a Rix-dollar ⌞ 1.	6 1/2 Marcs = a Ducat ⌞ 2.083	120 Shillings = a Pound Flemish. ⌞ 2.555	
	HANOVER, LUNENBURGH, Zell, &c.		a Fenning ⌞ .0027	3 Fennings = a Dreyer ⌞ .0081	8 Fennings = a Marien ⌞ .0216	12 Fennings = a Groth ⌞ .0324	8 Grothen = a half Gulden ⌞ .259	16 Grothen = a Gulden ⌞ .518	24 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	32 Grothen = a double Gulden ⌞ 1.037	4 Guildens = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074	
	SAXONY and HOLSTEIN.	Dresden, Leipzig, &c.	a Heller ⌞ .00135	2 Hellers = a Fenning ⌞ .0027	6 Hellers = a Dreyer ⌞ .0081	16 Hellers = a Marien ⌞ .0278	12 Fennings = a Groth ⌞ .0324	16 Grothen = a Gould ⌞ .518	24 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	32 Grothen = a Specie Dollar ⌞ 1.037	4 Goulds = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074	
		Wismar, Keil, &c.	a Heller ⌞ .00135	2 Hellers = a Fenning ⌞ .0027	6 Hellers = a Dreyer ⌞ .0081	16 Hellers = a Marien ⌞ .0278	12 Fennings = a Groth ⌞ .0324	16 Grothen = a Gould ⌞ .518	24 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	32 Grothen = a Specie Dollar ⌞ 1.037	4 Goulds = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074	
	BRANDENBURGH and POMERANIA.		Berlin, Potsdam, &c.	a Denier ⌞ .0048	9 Deniers = a Polchen ⌞ .0431	18 Deniers = a Groth ⌞ .0863	3 Polchens = an Abrals ⌞ .129	20 Grothen = a Marc ⌞ .1728	30 Grothen = a Florin ⌞ .259	90 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	108 Grothen = an Albertus ⌞ .928	8 Florins = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074
	COLOGN, MENTZ, TRIERS, LIEGE, Munster, Paderborn, &c.	a Dute ⌞ .0016	3 Dutes = a Cruitzer ⌞ .0049	2 Cruitzers = an Albus ⌞ .0097	8 Dutes = a Siver ⌞ .013	3 Sivers = a Plapert ⌞ .039	4 Plaperts = a Copituck ⌞ .155	40 Sivers = a Guilder ⌞ .518	2 Guilders = a hard Dollar ⌞ 1.037	4 Guilders = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074		
		BOHEMIA, SILESIA, and HUNGARY.	Prague, Bredlaw, and Hungary Freiburg, &c.	a Fening ⌞ .0021	2 Fennings = a Dreyer ⌞ .0042	3 Fennings = a Groth ⌞ .0064	4 Fennings = a Cruitzer ⌞ .0086	2 Cruitzers = a White Groth ⌞ .0172	60 Cruitzers = a Gould ⌞ .518	90 Cruitzers = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	2 Goulds = a hard Dollar ⌞ 1.037	4 Goulds = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074
	AUSTRIA and SWABIA.	Vienna, Presle, &c.	a Fening ⌞ .0021	3 Fennings = a Dreyer ⌞ .0043	4 Fennings = a Cruitzer ⌞ .0086	14 Fennings = a Groth ⌞ .0301	4 Cruitzers = a Batzen ⌞ .0333	15 Batzen = a Gould ⌞ .518	90 Cruitzers = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	30 Batzen = a Specie Dollar ⌞ 1.037	60 Batzen = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074	
		FRANCONIA, Frankfort, &c.	a Fening ⌞ .0021	4 Fennings = a Cruitzer ⌞ .0086	3 Cruitzers = a Keyler Groth ⌞ .0259	4 Cruitzers = a Batzen ⌞ .0342	15 Cruitzers = an Ort Gould ⌞ .1206	60 Cruitzers = a Gould ⌞ .518	90 Cruitzers = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	2 Goulds = a hard Dollar ⌞ 1.037	240 Cruitzers = a Ducat ⌞ 2.074	
	POLAND and PRUSSIA.	Cracow, Warlaw, &c.	a Shelon ⌞ .0029	3 Shelons = a Groth ⌞ .0086	5 Grothen = a Coutic ⌞ .0432	3 Coutics = a Tink ⌞ .1296	18 Grothen = an Ort ⌞ .1535	30 Grothen = a Florin ⌞ .259	90 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	8 Florins = a Ducat ⌞ 2.037	5 Rix-dollars = a Frederic d'Or ⌞ 1.78	
		Dantzic, Konigsberg, &c.	a Shelon ⌞ .0029	3 Shelons = a Groth ⌞ .0086	5 Grothen = a Coutic ⌞ .0432	3 Coutics = a Tink ⌞ .1296	18 Grothen = an Ort ⌞ .1535	30 Grothen = a Florin ⌞ .259	90 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	8 Florins = a Ducat ⌞ 2.037	5 Rix-dollars = a Frederic d'Or ⌞ 1.78	
	LIVONIA, Riga, Revel, Narva, &c.		a Blacken ⌞ .0014	6 Blackens = a Groth ⌞ .0086	9 Blackens = a Vording ⌞ .013	2 Grothen = a Whiten ⌞ .0173	6 Grothen = a Marc ⌞ .0518	30 Grothen = a Florin ⌞ .259	90 Grothen = a Rix-dollar ⌞ .778	108 Grothen = an Albertus ⌞ .928	164 Whitens = a Copperplate Dollar ⌞ 1.10	
	DENMARK, ZEA-LAND & NORWAY.	Copenhagen Sound, &c.	a Skillings ⌞ .0104	6 Skillings = a Druggen ⌞ .0524	16 Skillings = a Slet marc ⌞ .1667	20 Skillings = a Rix-marc ⌞ .2083	24 Skillings = a Rix-ort ⌞ .25	4 Marcs = a Crown ⌞ .667	6 Marcs = a Rix-dollar ⌞ 1.	11 Marcs = a Ducat ⌞ 1.833	14 Marcs = a Hart Ducat ⌞ 2.55	
		Bergen, Drontheim, &c.	a Skillings ⌞ .0104	6 Skillings = a Druggen ⌞ .0524	16 Skillings = a Slet marc ⌞ .1667	20 Skillings = a Rix-marc ⌞ .2083	24 Skillings = a Rix-ort ⌞ .25	4 Marcs = a Crown ⌞ .667	6 Marcs = a Rix-dollar ⌞ 1.	11 Marcs = a Ducat ⌞ 1.833	14 Marcs = a Hart Ducat ⌞ 2.55	
	SWEDEN and LAPLAND.	Stockholm, Upfal, &c.	a Runtick ⌞ .0036	2 Runticks = a Siver ⌞ .0072	8 Runticks = a Copper Marc ⌞ .0287	3 Cop. Marcs = a Silver Marc ⌞ .0864	4 Cop. Marcs = a Cop. Dol. ⌞ .1152	9 Cop. Marcs = a Caroline ⌞ .259	3 Cop. Dolls. = a Silver Dol. ⌞ .3457	3 Silver Dolls. = a Rix-dol. ⌞ 1.037	2 Rix-dolls. = a Ducat ⌞ 2.054	
		Thorn, &c.	a Runtick ⌞ .0036	2 Runticks = a Siver ⌞ .0072	8 Runticks = a Copper Marc ⌞ .0287	3 Cop. Marcs = a Silver Marc ⌞ .0864	4 Cop. Marcs = a Cop. Dol. ⌞ .1152	9 Cop. Marcs = a Caroline ⌞ .259	3 Cop. Dolls. = a Silver Dol. ⌞ .3457	3 Silver Dolls. = a Rix-dol. ⌞ 1.037	2 Rix-dolls. = a Ducat ⌞ 2.054	
	RUSSIA or MOSCOVY.		Peterburgh, Archangel, &c.	a Poltica ⌞ .0025	2 Polticas = a Denutca ⌞ .005	2 Denutcas = a Copec ⌞ .01	25 Copecs = a Polpotin or quarter Ruble ⌞ .25	50 Copecs = a Poltin or half Ruble ⌞ .50	100 Copecs = a Ruble ⌞ 1.	2 Rubles = a Czervonitch, or Ducat 2.25 ⌞ 5.	5 Rubles = an Imperial ⌞ 10.	10 Rubles = a double Imperial ⌞ 10.
			Moscow, &c.	a Poltica ⌞ .0025	2 Polticas = a Denutca ⌞ .005	2 Denutcas = a Copec ⌞ .01	25 Copecs = a Polpotin or quarter Ruble ⌞ .25	50 Copecs = a Poltin or half Ruble ⌞ .50	100 Copecs = a Ruble ⌞ 1.	2 Rubles = a Czervonitch, or Ducat 2.25 ⌞ 5.	5 Rubles = an Imperial ⌞ 10.	10 Rubles = a double Imperial ⌞ 10.

MODERN UNIVERSAL TABLE

The Most Copious and Authentick that ever was published, of the present State of the *Real* and *Imaginary* MONIES of the WORLD.

Divided into FOUR PARTS, viz.

EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, and AMERICA;

Which are Sub-divided into Sixty Parts or Lines, containing the Names of the Most Capital Places, the Species whereof are specified, each Subdivision in one Line, ascending from the Beginning to the End, teaching how the Monies are reckoned by the respective Nations; and the Figures standing under the Denomination of each Foreign Piece, is the *English* intrinsic Value thereof, according to the best Assays made at the *Mint* of the *Tower* of *LONDON*.

EXPLANATION.

By *Real Money*, is understood an effective Specie, representing in itself, the Value denominated thereby, as, A GUINEA, &c. [several other Pieces, as A POUND Sterling, &c.]  
This Mark is prefixed to the *Imaginary Money*, which is generally made use of in keeping Accounts, signifying a fictitious Piece which is not in being, or which cannot be represented but by a fictitious Piece.  
This Mark of Alligation and Dependence is the Sign of Equality, signifying *is, make, or equal to*.  
This Mark is set under each Line, to lead the Eye to the intrinsic Value in Sterling of each Foreign Piece standing over it; and all Fractions therein contained are Parts of a PENNY.

Humbly Dedicated to the MERCHANTS of the BRITISH EMPIRE.

1782

WEST-INDIES	ENGLISH, JAMAICA, BARBADOES, &c.	A Halfpenny	2 Halfpence =	A Penny	7 1/2 Pence =	A Bit	12 Pence =	A Shilling	75 Pence =	A Dollar	7 Shillings =	A Crown	20 Shillings =	A Pound	24 Shillings =	A Pistole	30 Shillings =
	FRENCH, ST. DOMINGO, MARTINICO, &c.	Half-Sol	2 Half-Sols =	A Sol	7 1/2 Sols =	A Half-Scalin	15 Sols =	A Scalin	20 Sols =	A Livre	7 Livres =	A Dollar	8 Livres =	An Ecu	26 Livres =	A Pistole	32 Livres =
CONTINENT	ENGLISH, Nova Scotia, New-England, VIRGINIA, &c.	A Penny	12 Pence =	A Shilling	20 Shillings =	A Pound	2 Pounds =	4 Pounds =	6 Pounds =	8 Pounds =	10 Pounds =	12 Pounds =	14 Pounds =	16 Pounds =	18 Pounds =	20 Pounds =	For one Pound
	CANADA, FLORIDA, CAYENA, &c.	A Denier	12 Deniers =	A Sol	20 Sols =	A Livre	2 Livres =	4 Livres =	6 Livres =	8 Livres =	10 Livres =	12 Livres =	14 Livres =	16 Livres =	18 Livres =	20 Livres =	For one Livre
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A TABLE OF THE REAL & IMAGINARY MONIES OF AMERICA, EUROPE, ASIA, AND AFRICA

SWITZERLAND.

FRANCE and NAVARRE.

PORTUGAL, Lisbon, Oporto, &c.

SPAIN and CATALA.

ITALY.

TURKEY, MOREA, CANDIA, CYPRUS, &c.

ARABIA, Medina, Mecca, Mocha, &c.

PERSIA, Ispahan, Ormus, Gombroon, &c.

GUZZURAT, Surat, Cambay, &c.

MALABAR.

COROMANDEL, Madras, Pondicherry, &c.

BENGAL, Calicut, Fort-William, &c.

SIAM, Pegu, Malacca, CAMBODIA, SUMATRA, JAVA, BORNEO, &c.

CHINA, Peking, Canton, &c.

JAPAN, Jeddo, Macoa, &c.

EGYPT, Old and New Cairo, Alexandria, Savde, &c.

BAIRAKY, ALGIERS, TUNIS, TRIPOLY, Una, &c.

MOROCCO, Santa Cruz, Mequinez, Fez, Tangiers, Saltee, &c.

BASIL, Zurich, Zuz, &c.	1 Rap = 3 Rapen = a Fening	4 Fenings = a Cruitzer	12 Fenings = * a Sol	15 Fenings = a coarle Batzen	18 Fenings = a good Batzen	20 Sols = * a Livre	60 Cruitzers = a Gulden	108 Cruitzers = a Rix-dollar
St. Gall, Appenzel, &c.	an Heller = 2 Hellers = a Fening	4 Fenings = a Cruitzer	12 Fenings = * a Sol	4 Cruitzers = a coarle Batzen	5 Cruitzers = a good Batzen	20 Sols = * a Livre	60 Cruitzers = a Gulden	102 Cruitzers = a Rix-dollar
BERNE, Lucern, Neuchatel, &c.	a Denier = 4 Deniers = a Cruitzer	13 Cruitzers = * a Sol	4 Cruitzers = a Plapert	5 Cruitzers = a Gros	6 Cruitzers = a Batzen	20 Sols = * a Livre	75 Cruitzers = a Gulden	135 Cruitzers = a Crow
GENEVA, Pecay, Bonne, &c.	a Denier 2 Deniers = a Denier current	12 Deniers = a small Sol	12 Deniers cur. = a Sol current	12 small Sols = * a Florin	20 Sols current = * a Livre current	104 Florins = a Patacou	154 Florins = a Croifade	24 Florins = a Ducat
Lille, Cambray, Valenciennes, &c.	a Denier = 12 Deniers = a Sous	15 Deniers = * a Patard	15 Patards = * a Piette	20 Sous = * a Livre Tournois	20 Petards = * a Florin	60 Sous = an Ecu of Exchange	104 Livres = a Ducat	24 Livres = a Louis d'Or
Dunkirk, St. Omer's, St. Quintin, &c.	a Denier = 12 Deniers = a Sous or Sol	15 Deniers = * a Patard	15 Sous = * a Piette	20 Sous = * a Livre Tournois	3 Livres = an Ecu of Exchange	24 Livres = a Louis d'Or	25 Livres = a Guinea Ling	4. 4.
Paris, Lyons, Marseilles, &c.	a Denier = 3 Deniers = a Liard	2 Liards = a Dardene	12 Deniers = a Sous	20 Sous = a Livre Tournois	60 Sols = an Ecu of Exchange	6 Livres = an Ecu	10 Livres = * a Pitole	24 Livres = a Louis d'Or
Bordeaux, Bayonne, &c.	a Denier = 3 Deniers = a Liard	2 Liards = a Dardene	12 Deniers = a Sous	20 Sous = a Livre Tournois	60 Sols = an Ecu of Exchange	6 Livres = an Ecu	10 Livres = * a Pitole	24 Livres = a Louis d'Or
Madrid, Cadiz, Seville, &c.	a Maravedie = 2 Maravedies = a Quattr	34 Maravedies = a Rial	2 Rials = a Piafre of Ex.	8 Rials = * a Piafre of Ex.	10 Rials = a Dollar	375 Maravedies = a Ducat of Ex.	32 Rials = * a Pitole of Ex.	36 Rials = a Pi
Gibraltar, Malaga, Denia, &c.	a Maravedie = 2 Maravedies = an Ochoavo	4 Maravedies = a Quattr	34 Maravedies = a rial Velon	15 Rials = * a Piafre of Ex.	512 Maravedies = a Piafre of Ex.	60 Rials = a Pitole of Ex.	2048 Maravedies = * a Piafre of Ex.	70 Rials = a Pi
Barcelona, Saragossa, Valencia, &c.	a Maravedie = 16 Maravedies = a Soldo	2 Soldos = a Rial Old Plate	20 Soldos = * a Libra	24 Soldos = * a Ducat	16 Soldos = * a Dollar	22 Soldos = * a Ducat	21 Soldos = * a Ducat	60 Soldos = a Pi
GENOA, Novi, St. Remo, &c.	a Denari = 12 Denari = a Soldi	4 Soldi = a Chevalet	20 Soldi = * a Lira	30 Soldi = a Teftoon	5 Lires = a Croifade	115 Soldi = * a Pezzo of Ex.	6 Lires = a Ducat	22 Lires = a Louis d'Or
CORSICA, Bastia, &c.	a Denari = 3 Denari = a Quattrina	12 Denari = a Soldi	12 Soldi = * a Florin	20 Soldi = * a Lira	6 Florins = a Scudi	7 Florins = a Ducatoon	13 Lires = a Pistole	16 Lires = a Louis d'Or
PIEDMONT, SAVOY, Turin, Ciamberty, and SARDINIA. Cagliari, &c.	a Denari = 3 Denari = a Quattrina	12 Denari = a Soldi	20 Soldi = * a Lira	115 Soldi = a Scudi current	117 Soldi = a Scudi of Ex.	6 Lires = a Philip	22 Lires = a Pistole	23 Lires = a Spanish Pi
MILAN, MODENA, PARMA, Pavia, &c.	a Denari = 3 Denari = a Quattrina	12 Denari = a Soldi	20 Soldi = * a Lira	115 Soldi = a Scudi current	117 Soldi = a Scudi of Ex.	6 Lires = a Philip	22 Lires = a Pistole	23 Lires = a Spanish Pi
LEGHORN, FLORENCE, &c.	a Denari = 4 Denari = a Quattrina	12 Denari = a Soldi	5 Quattrina = a Craca	8 Cracas = a Quilo	20 Soldi = * a Lira	6 Lires = a Piafre of Ex.	74 Lires = a Ducat	22 Lires = a Pi
ROME, Civita Vecchia, Ancona, &c.	a Quattrina = 5 Quattrina = a Bayoc	8 Bayocs = a Julio	10 Bayocs = a stampit Julio	24 Bayocs = a Teftoon	10 Julios = a Crown current	12 Julios = * a Crown stampit	18 Julios = a Chequin	31 Julios = a Pi
NAPLES, Gaeta Capua, &c.	a Quattrina = 3 Quattrina = a Grain	10 Grains = a Carlin	40 Quattrina = a Paulo	20 Grains = a Tarin	40 Grains = a Teftoon	100 Grains = * a Ducat of Ex.	23 Tarins = a Pistole	25 Tarins = a Spanish Pi
SICILY and MALTA, Palermo, Messina.	a Pichilli = 6 Pichilli = a Grain	8 Pichilli = a Ponti	10 Grains = a Carlin	20 Grains = a Tarin	6 Tarins = * a Florin of Ex.	13 Tarins = a Ducat of Ex.	60 Carlins = * an ounce	2 ounces = a Pi
BOLOGNA, Ravenna, &c.	a Quattrini = 6 Quattrina = a Bayoc	10 Bayocs = a Julio	20 Bayocs = * a Lira	3 Julios = a Teftoon	85 Bayocs = a Scudi of Ex.	105 Bayocs = a Ducatoon	100 Bayocs = a Crown	31 Julios = a Pi
VENICE, Bergham, &c.	a Picoli = 12 Picoli = a Soldi	6 Soldi = * a Gros	18 Soldi = a Julio	20 Soldi = * a Lira	3 Julos = a Teftoon	124 Soldi = a Ducat current	24 Gros = * a Ducat of Ex.	17 Lires = a Cher
TURKEY, MOREA, CANDIA, CYPRUS, &c.	a Mangar = 4 Mangars = an Asper	3 Aspers = a Parac	5 Aspers = a Bestic	10 Aspers = an Office	20 Aspers = a Solota	80 Aspers = * a Piafre	100 Aspers = a Caragrouch	10 Solotas = a X
ARABIA, Medina, Mecca, Mocha, &c.	a Carret = 5 Carrets = a Caver	7 Carrets = a Comafhee	80 Carrets = a Laria	18 Comafhees = an Abyls	60 Comafhees = * a Piafre	80 Cavers = a Dollar	100 Comafhees = a Sequin	80 Larins = * a Tom
PERSIA, Ispahan, Ormus, Gombroon, &c.	a Coz = 4 Coz = a Bifti	10 Coz = a Shahee	20 Coz = a Mamooda	25 Coz = a Larin	4 Shahees = an Abafhee	5 Abafhees = an Or	12 Abafhees = a Bovello	50 Abafhees = * a Tom
GUZZURAT, Surat, Cambay, &c.	a Pecka = 2 Peckas = a Pice	4 Pices = a Fanam	5 Pices = a Viz	16 Pices = an Ana	4 Anas = a Rupce	2 Rupces = an English Crown	14 Anas = a Pagoda	4 Pagodas = a Gold Ru
Bombay, Dabul, &c.	a Budgrook = 2 Budgrooks = a Re	5 Rez = a Pice	16 Pices = a Laree	20 Pices = a Quarter	240 Rez = a Xeraphim	4 Quarters = a Rupce	14 Quarters = a Pagoda	60 Quarters = a Gold Ru
Goa, Vnapour, &c.	a Rez = 2 Rez = a Bazaraco	2 Bazaracos = a Pecka	20 Rez = a Vinun	4 Vintins = a Laree	3 Larees = a Xeraphim	42 Vintins = a Tangu	4 Tangus = a Paru	8 Tangus = a Gold Ru
COROMANDEL, Madras, Pondicherry, &c.	a Cath = 5 Cath = a Viz	2 Viz = a Pice	6 Pices = a Pical	8 Pices = a Fanam	10 Fanams = a Rupce	2 Rupees = an English Crown	36 Fanams = a Pagoda	4 Pagodas = a Gold Ru
BENGAL, Calicut, Fort-William, &c.	a Pice = 4 Pices = a Fanam	6 Pices = a Viz	12 Pices = an Ana	10 Anas = a Piano	16 Anas = a Rupce	2 Rupees = a French Ecu	2 Rupees = an English Crown	56 Anas = a Pag
SIAM, Pegu, Malacca, CAMBODIA, SUMATRA, JAVA, BORNEO, &c.	a Cori = 800 Cori = a Fettee	125 Fettees = a Sateleer	250 Fettees = a Sooco	500 Fettees = a Total	900 Fettees = a Dollar	2 Tucals = a Rial	4 Soocos = an Ecu	8 Sateleers = a Cr
CHINA, Peking, Canton, &c.	a Caxa = 10 Caxa = a Candereen	10 Candareens = a Mace	35 Candareens = a Rupce	2 Rupees = a Dollar	70 Candereens = a Rix Dollar	7 Maces = an Ecu	2 Rupee = a Crown	10 Maces = a *
JAPAN, Jeddo, Macoa, &c.	a Pitt = 20 Pitts = a Mace	15 Maces = an Ounce Silver	20 Maces = a Tale	30 Maces = an Ingot	13 Ounces Silver = an Ounce Gold	2 Ounces = a Japanese	2 Japanees = a Double	21 Ounces Gold = * a Ca
EGYPT, Old and New Cairo, Alexandria, Savde, &c.	an Alper = 3 Alpers = a Medin	10 Alpers = a Rial Old Plate	2 Rials = a Double	4 Doubles = a Dollar	24 Medins = a Silver Chequin	30 Medins = a Dollar	180 Alpers = a Zequin	15 Doubles = a Pi
BAIRAKY, ALGIERS, TUNIS, TRIPOLY, Una, &c.	an Alper = 3 Alpers = a Medin	10 Alpers = a Rial Old Plate	2 Rials = a Double	4 Doubles = a Dollar	24 Medins = a Silver Chequin	30 Medins = a Dollar	180 Alpers = a Zequin	15 Doubles = a Pi
MOROCCO, Santa Cruz, Mequinez, Fez, Tangiers, Saltee, &c.	a Fluice = 24 Fluices = a Blanquil	4 Blanquils = an Ounce	7 Blanquils = an Octavo	14 Blanquils = a Quarto	2 Quartos = a Medio	28 Blanquils = a Dollar	56 Blanquils = a Xequin	100 Blanquils = a Pitt

NOTE. For all the Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, and Danish Settlements, or Colonies, either in ASIA, AFRICA, or the WEST-INDIES, see the Monies of the respective Nations.

MODERN UNIVERSAL TABLE...FOUR PARTS, VIZ., EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AND AMERICA

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and  
NAVARRÉ

PORTUGAL

SPAIN  
and  
CATALONIA

GENOVA, NOVI,  
ST. REMO, &c.

PIEDMONT, SAVOY,  
and  
SARDINIA

MILAN, MODENA,  
PARMA, PAVIA, &c.

LEGNORNI,  
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ROME, CIVITA VECCHIA,  
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CAPUA, &c.

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TOB, &c.

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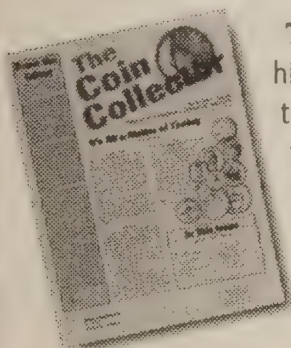


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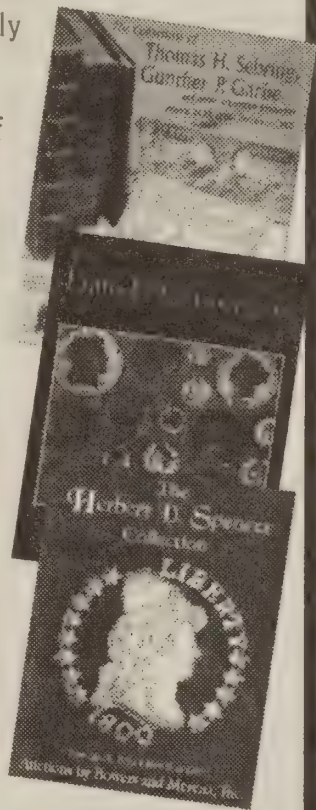
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MOROCCO, Santa Cruz, Mequinez, Fez, Tangiers, Salce, &c.	2 Fuce	24 Fuces = a Blanquil	4 Blanquils = 2n Ource	7 Blanquils = an O
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# MODERN UNIVERSAL TABLE.. FOUR PARTS, VIZ., EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AND AMERICA

SWITZERLAND		FRANCE		PORTUGAL		SPAIN and CATALONIA		GENOVA, Corsica, Baffia, &c.		PIEDMONT, SAVOY, and SARDINIA		MILAN, MODENA, PARMA, PAVIA, &c.	
Basil, Zurich, Zug, &c.	A Rap	3 Kapen	= A Fening	A Fening	= A Cruizer	12 Fening	= A Sol	Genova, Novi, St. Remo, &c.	A Denari	12 Denari	= A Soldi	4 Soldi	= A Florin
St. Gall, Appenzel, &c.	An Heller	2 Hellers	= A Fening	4 Fening	= A Cruizer	12 Fening	= A Sol	Corsica, Baffia, &c.	A Denari	12 Denari	= A Soldi	4 Soldi	= A Florin
Bern, Lucerne, Neuchatel, &c.	A Denier	4 Deniers	= A Cruizer	3 Cruizers	= A Sol	4 Cruizers	= A Piapert	Piedmont, Savoy, &c.	A Denari	3 Denari	= A Quatrini	12 Quatrini	= A Florin
Geneva, Peking, Bonne, &c.	A Denier	2 Deniers	= A Denier cur.	12 Deniers	= A Small Sol	12 Deniers	= A Sol current	Milan, Modena, Parma, Pavia, &c.	A Denari	3 Denari	= A Quatrini	12 Quatrini	= A Florin
Geneva, Peking, Bonne, &c.	A Denier	2 Deniers	= A Denier cur.	12 Deniers	= A Small Sol	12 Deniers	= A Sol current	Milan, Modena, Parma, Pavia, &c.	A Denari	3 Denari	= A Quatrini	12 Quatrini	= A Florin
Lille, Cambrai, Valenciennes, &c.	A Denier	12 Deniers	= A Sol	15 Deniers	= A Parard	15 Parards	= A Piette						
Dunkirk, St. Omer, St. Quin- &c.	A Denier	12 Deniers	= A Sol	15 Deniers	= A Parard	15 Parards	= A Piette						
Paris, Lyon, Marseilles, &c.	A Denier	3 Deniers	= A Liard	2 Liards	= A Dardene	12 Deniers	= A Sol						
Bordeaux, Bayonne, &c.	A Re	10 Rez	= A Half Vintin	20 Rez	= A Vintin	5 Vincins	= A Tefoon						
Madrid, Cadiz, Seville, &c.	A Maravedie	2 Maravedies	= A Quaril	34 Maravedies	= A Rial	2 Rials	= A Pifarine						
Gibraltar, Malaga, Denia, &c.	A Maravedie	2 Maravedies	= An Ochavo	4 Maravedies	= A Quaril	34 Maravedies	= A Rial Vilon						
Barcelona, Saragossa, Valencia, &c.	A Maravedie	16 Maravedies	= A Soldo	2 Soldos	= A Rial old	20 Soldos	= A Libra						
Old Plate,	A Denari	12 Denari	= A Soldi	4 Soldi	= A chevalier	20 Soldi	= A Lire						
Genova, Novi, St. Remo, &c.	A Denari	12 Denari	= A Soldi	4 Soldi	= A chevalier	20 Soldi	= A Lire						
Corsica, Baffia, &c.	A Denari	12 Denari	= A Soldi	4 Soldi	= A chevalier	20 Soldi	= A Lire						
Piedmont, Savoy, &c.	A Denari	3 Denari	= A Quatrini	12 Quatrini	= A Florin								
Milan, Modena, Parma, Pavia, &c.	A Denari	3 Denari	= A Quatrini	12 Quatrini	= A Florin								



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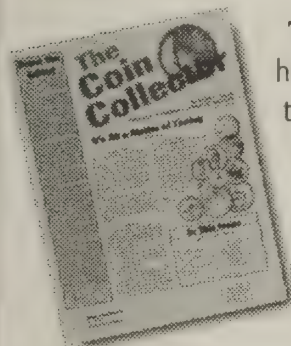


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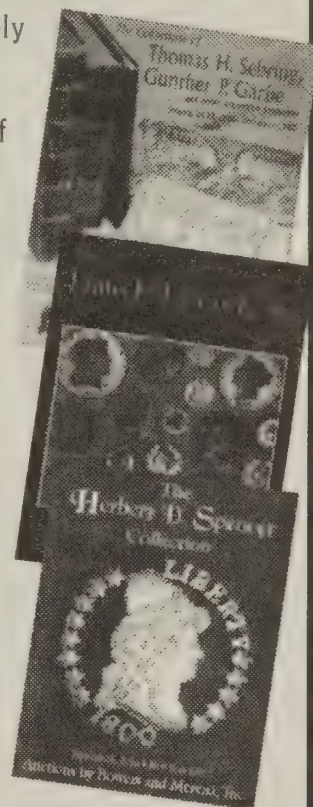
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# THE ASYLUM

*Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*

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Volume XIV, Nos. 2-4

Fall, 1996

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**—RUFUS CHOATE**



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### *President's Message...*

It is a sad time for NBS. We have lost one of our co-founders, Jack Collins. This issue of our journal is dedicated to his memory. According to our other co-founder and current Editor George Kolbe, it will be the largest issue of *The Asylum* to date.

A number of our members have already told me how much they will miss Jack. I know I will. So, with his passing, the best way we can keep his memory alive is to keep this organization alive. I implore all members to spend some time this next year and write of your collecting interests.

Not all of this issue is about sadness. At this year's A. N. A. Convention, Pete Smith surprised everyone by having his exhibit of Numismatic Literature win Best of Show, a first for this relatively new class. He also took home Best of Class and Best First Time Exhibitor — a great job by a great person. Pete also spoke at the convention about research he did on A. M. Smith (no relation), which was the topic of his Exhibit.

It is also an honor to announce that David Hirt will take over the duties of Secretary/Treasurer for NBS. As some of you may already know, Frank Van Zandt had to give up this position because of health problems. I know I speak for all of NBS in wishing Frank the best of luck in dealing with these adversities.



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THE ASYLUM

Vol. XIV, Nos. 2-4      Consecutive Issue Nos. 54-56      Fall, 1996

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Advertising Rates

Full Page . . . . .	\$60.00
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Half Page. . . . .	35.00
Quarter Page . . . . .	20.00
Classified. . . . .	10¢ per word, minimum 2.50

*The Asylum* is published quarterly. Manuscripts submitted to the editor should be accompanied, if possible, by a Macintosh-compatible disk.

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**N. B. S. Membership:** \$15.00 annual dues in North America, \$20.00 elsewhere. Members receive all issues of the current volume. Requests for membership should be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

## Jack Collins • 1939-1996

Joel J. Orosz, NLG

Jack Collins, of South Gate, California, the co-founder of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, and founding co-editor of its journal, *The Asylum*, died of heart disease at his home on September 27, 1996. Born in Detroit, Michigan on May 14, 1939, Jack Collins was a man whose life was a persistent rebuke to specialization, and a glorious affirmation of the merits of the enlightened amateur. In a numismatic career that spanned only three decades, he wore no fewer than ten separate hats, all with great distinction: coin collector, copper maven, coin dealer and auction cataloger, numismatic photographer, researcher, numismatic bibliophile, club founder, journal editor, numismatic bibliopole, and Washingtoniana collector. To all of these varied pursuits he brought fierce devotion and a keen intellect that quickly made him the master of the subject at hand.

Jack was a notable product of the immense quickening of coin collecting activity in America during the 1950's. Starting, as virtually everyone did, as a general collector, his natural inquisitiveness soon led him to the more complex challenges of fellowship and scholarship. His path soon crossed that of an unconventional young polymath named Walter Breen, and thus began a productive collaboration that culminated in some of the greatest American numismatic research ever conducted.

Like so many other sharp-witted collectors, Collins rapidly focused on copper coinage as his chief hobby interest. In 1960, he was privileged to buy dozens of large cents from the estate of B. Max Mehl. By 1967, when he became a charter member of the Early American Coppers club, Jack had one of the top-drawer collections of the big cents. A decade later, he parted with it via the Bowers and Ruddy Fairfield sale (October, 1977). But he promptly set about creating an extraordinary collection of the late dates, which he then sold in the Bowers and Ruddy Roy Harte Part III sale (January, 1983).

Even as he collected, Jack entered the realm of the dealer. His erudition on virtually all subjects numismatic made him a formidable cataloger. Martin Gengerke lists three auction sales emitted by Collins under the banner of Hillcrest Enterprises from 1968 to 1970, two of which were illustrated by his own photographic plates. Numerous firms vied for his services as a guest cataloger; Jack produced the Admiral Bitler Collection of large cents for A-Mark in 1973, and several sales for Pine Tree. The pinnacle of his cataloging career — and the choice of many a bibliophile for greatest American coin catalog ever — came in 1986 when he described and photographed for Superior Stamp and Coin Company the incomparable Robinson Brown collection of large cents.



Had Collins never written a single lot description, however, his name would still live on numismatically for his photography. To capture the image of a coin on film is a maddening challenge, and no one has ever mastered the challenge more triumphantly than Jack. His exposures have a signature style that has been often imitated, but never surpassed, and he was the first to master the technique of shooting the *edge* of a coin.

All of these success were very public, but Jack Collins was also an often unsung hero of numismatic research. The prodigious — but not necessarily disciplined — genius of Walter Breen would have been captured in print far less frequently if not for Jack's skills as a combination of coach and cheerleader. Jack played key roles in the publication of Breen tomes such as *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents*, *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins*, and *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Coins*. At his death, Jack was laboring to bring to publication two references that Breen had left in manuscript at his death: the historical section of "Silver Dollars of 1794" (in collaboration with Michael Hodder) and a revision of Dr. Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy* (in collaboration with Mark Borkhardt).

This vast fund of numismatic knowledge was obtained the old-fashioned way: by reading. Collins devoured information, and in the process became one of America's premier numismatic bibliophiles. Both Frank Katen and George Frederick Kolbe counted Jack among their regular customers, and over the years he amassed a library notable both for its informational content, and for the collectibles it contained. He developed a special taste for the emissions of the Brothers Chapman and in 1981, at Kolbe's ninth sale, he electrified the small bibliophile community by paying \$9,000.00 for the S. H. Chapman catalog of the W. H. Hunter collection of Indian Peace Medals. At the time it was — by a comfortable margin — the record price paid for any American numismatic book or catalog at public auction.

Collins was hardly a solitary hobbyist. At the St. Louis A.N.A. annual convention in 1979 Jack and co-conspirator George Kolbe organized about a dozen enthusiasts to form the Numismatic Bibliomania Society. Both the N. B. S. name, and that of its official journal — *The Asylum* — issued from Jack's whimsical and prolific imagination. It was also largely due to Jack's enthusiasm and devotion, that the fledgling club survived its lean early years.

The duo of Collins and Kolbe also served as founding co-editors of *The Asylum*. No recounting of Jack's life would be complete without a brief review of the celebrated "coprophilia" incident that made his tenure as co-editor memorable. Jack had persuaded Walter Breen to submit for publication, in Volume 1, No. 2 of *The Asylum*, a manuscript entitled "A Review of Half Cent Literature," which Breen had written in 1956 and revised in 1966. This fact was recorded in a note at the end of the article, and the editors

added that "Any half cent literature which has appeared since 1966 has not been discussed herewith." Roger Cohen, Jr., the author of the then-standard reference, *American Half Cents: The Little Half Sisters*, construed that last sentence as a direct affront to him and his work. In response, Mr. Cohen sent a rambling and libelous letter to the editors of *The Asylum*, in which he referred to Jack as a liar, a bigot, and for good measure, a coprophagist. The editors printed the entire epistle, unorthodox orthography and all, in the next issue of *The Asylum*, along with a note from Breen explaining the causes for a couple of misunderstandings that had raised Cohen's anger. Jack himself responded to Cohen's page-long diatribe with but a single sentence: "In my opinion, American Half Cents is what a coprophagist would wrap his lunch in!"

Such battles did nothing to diminish Jack's joy in dealing *with* literature. In fact, he soon began to deal *in* literature, offering two superbly cataloged sales, one in 1983, the other in 1987. The first was illustrated both by line drawings and nine of Jack's superb plates. Equally valuable were his many annotations. For example, under lot 978 of the 1987 sale, he discussed the 26 pages of errata needed to correct Herbert I. Melnick's garbling of Breen's cataloging for the 1975 Early American Coppers catalog!

Jack Collins had been first in so many things numismatic that it is altogether appropriate that he should have specialized in Washingtoniana. In 1991, he issued a simply magnificent fixed price list entitled *Washingtonia*, offering for sale the collection of Washington tokens and medals formed by F. C. C. Boyd. The text mixed meticulous scholarship with pointed criticism of the errors committed by previous scholars on the subject. Naturally, the list was illustrated sumptuously, with no fewer than 36 fine plates! Jack had gained the expertise to prepare this landmark offering by carefully building his own splendid collection of Washington pieces. In fact, this formed the last act in the Collins numismatic career, for he had consigned this collection to Stack's for dispersal in their auctions of April 30-May 1, 1996; July 17, 1996; and November 6, 1996 (the latter two appearing under the Coin Galleries masthead).

A character so multifaceted simply defies the biographer's glib descriptions. Jack's personality allowed him to be at once a ferocious polemical adversary, yet a devoted son tender in his care for his elderly mother. His intellectual rigor was unbending, yet near the end of his life he transformed his backyard into a whimsical fantasy landscape. He possessed a bottomless well of energy, yet he was occasionally given to bouts of procrastination. This paradoxical personality excelled at so many things that — inevitably — he left us wishing for more of all of them: more razor-sharp photographs, more ground-breaking research, more wicked editorial ripostes, more trenchant cataloging. We must be thankful, of course, for the many gifts he *did* leave us, gifts that inform and delight and will endure. But friends and fans alike can be permitted a final lament: Jack, you left us too soon.



## A Numismatic Friendship

George F. Kolbe

February 28th, 1976 was a big day in my life. Though our first fixed price list had been issued nine years earlier, this was the closing day of the first Kolbe auction sale of numismatic literature. It was also the day that I met two of my best numismatic friends: Jack Collins and Alan Meghrig.

Thereafter, I began to see Jack and Alan regularly, especially when I opened offices in 1978 in Santa Ana and moved to larger quarters in Mission Viejo in 1980. About this time, Alan Meghrig moved to the immediate area and seldom would a week pass without a visit from Alan, avidly looking for books to add to his library. My oldest daughter, Jennifer, and a friend of hers, John Gibbs, were both working for me at the time and, whenever they saw Alan approaching the office, they would vocalize the suspense music from the movie "Jaws." In due course, that became Alan's nickname — unknown to him perhaps until he reads these lines. It was an amusing tribute, at least among the three of us, to Alan's dedication to forming a top-rate reference library of American numismatic books.

Jack Collins operated on a slightly different wave-length and there was little competition between the two. Interested in pedigrees of famous American coins, Jack set about forming a top-rate library of American auction sale catalogues. Initially, it was housed in Jack's bedroom. The first time I visited his home, there were seven-foot-high stacks of hardbound volumes of *Coin World* flanking the entrance to the bedroom (Jack had recently attended a local library's de-acquisition sale and could not resist trundling home the massive run of imposing volumes). One had to turn sideways to enter and, once inside, one tread very carefully. The walls, and most of the windows, were hidden by bookcases and there were stacks of catalogues on the bed. I recall Jack telling me that he had to move the catalogues to the floor before going to bed in the evening and had to put them back in the morning to clear the narrow pathway out.

I make it sound as if Jack was a bit eccentric. Well, he was. Some of us march to our own drummer; Jack Collins had his own orchestra. He made grand music. With Jack's encouragement, Walter Breen brought to fruition in 1983 his *Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents*. In the book, Breen chronicles Collins' contributions: "JACK COLLINS, designer and publisher of this encyclopedia, photographed the coins herein illustrated, from major private and institutional collections; compiled numerous pedigree chains; verified all auction and fixed price citations [over 2,000 in all]: a herculean task."

It was too much, and Jack ended up being a candidate for coronary bypass surgery. Look up the word PERFECTIONIST and it would not be par-

ticularly surprising to find Jack's likeness flanking the definition. Never in top health, this quality, combined with an iron will, often drove Jack to overextend himself. His unwavering determination drove me crazy at times. I recall imploring Jack, at the time in the intensive care unit of a neighboring hospital run by Roman Catholic nuns, to agree to bypass surgery. Absolutely not - he would rather die if financial terms could not be worked out. Even during this critical time, Jack's irreverent humor bubbled to the surface. The hospital - Mother Frances Cabrini - became "Our Lady of the Wallet."

The details were, of course, worked out and the surgery was successful. Despite his propensity for procrastination, i.e. perfection, Jack's contributions to numismatic knowledge were many in the succeeding decade and a half. The culmination of the Breen half cent book, two major auction sales of numismatic literature and a monumental fixed price catalogue of *Washingtonia* were among them. All during this period, research continued on his pet project, an intensive study of the 1794 dollar. Though long ready for publication, Jack fussed over the details even during the weeks and days preceding his death. Publication of this work, ably edited by Michael Hodder, will be his final legacy to numismatics.

One of the most vivid memories I have of Jack is his reaction when he first viewed the holdings of the Essex Institute. He was there at the office in Mission Viejo in early 1981 when the cartons were being unpacked and Jack acted like the proverbial kid in the candy store. His enthusiasm was infectious and, with his encouragement and numerous suggestions, the catalogue for that June 13th, 1981 sale became far better than it otherwise would have been. The results of Jack's excellent photography are to be found in that and the other illustrated Kolbe catalogues issued from the late 1970's to the mid-1980's. Another vivid memory is the stunned expression on Jack's face when he bought the most expensive item in the candy store — a superb plated copy of S. H. Chapman's 1920 W. H. Hunter sale — in the June 1981 Essex Institute sale, for a world-record price.

Jack called me some time around early 1979 with an exciting idea: formation of an organization of collectors of numismatic literature. In mid-1980, he and I sat down and put together the first issue of *The Asylum, Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*. Jack supplied most of the inspiration; yours truly supplied much of the perspiration. Anyone perusing the early issues will note the irregular issue dates. Jack would not find it inappropriate that this issue, dedicated to his memory, is late in coming out.

It wasn't until many years later that Jack and I realized that we had first met in the late 1960's in Redondo Beach, California. At the time, Jack was proprietor of an upscale coin store; "Eagle Coin Galleries" may have



been the name. I visited him there seeking an independent opinion on a 1902 proof set I was in the process of acquiring. Jack was essentially a private person and infrequently shared details of his personal life. I do know that at one time or another he owned and operated a beer bar, was an associate producer of television "Specials" and spent a year or more in Europe. Among his numismatic activities, he operated a number of coin firms, worked as a cataloguer for several top U. S. coin firms, and was a renowned numismatic photographer.

Through the years Jack and I often spoke weekly or more often by telephone and, even after his interest in numismatic literature had waned, we usually spoke to each other once a month or so — often for no particular reason. He always knew the most salacious details of any current numismatic scandal and always had a joke or two of dubious taste to tell.

It was always a joy to converse with Jack, a reward in itself. Earlier this year, when Jack's health was failing badly, I visited him a number of times. On two of these occasions, Jack asked me to bring along my hardbound set of *The Asylum*. The first time, he wrote the following inside: "Dear George— Thanks for all the fun times and all the great book(s) and catalogues." The second time he wrote: "I can't think of any relationship that I've had in the past twenty years that has been more rewarding — but then, my memory isn't what it used to be!" Thank *you*, Jack, for all the fun times and, especially, for your friendship. You will never be forgotten.

### The Jack Collins Memorial

Since Jack Collins passed away, a number of his friends have asked about a memorial. Certainly, the most fitting memorial will be the publication of his work on 1794 United States silver dollars. It is an excellent work, meticulously prepared and excellently illustrated. Chances are quite good that a publisher will be found but, if not, publication of this work will depend on Jack's friends.

You are invited, at the present time, to make a memorial donation. Please make checks payable to the Numismatic Bibliomania Society. Funds will be held separately pending publication of Jack's book. When a publisher is found, the funds will be donated to a charity designated by Jack's family. If a publisher is not found, you may be asked to contribute additional funds to ensure publication of Jack's book.



## One of My Closest Friends in Numismatics

P. Scott Rubin

He was born on May 14th, 1939 and died on August 27th, 1996; he was one of my closest friends in numismatics; he was Jack Collins. I first became aware of Jack when he and our current editor, George Kolbe, co-founded the Numismatic Bibliomania Society. However, it was not until about two years later that our fourteen year weekly telephone friendship began.

Over the years we talked about coins, we talked about coin people, but included in almost every conversation was Jack's love of humor. He was born in the era before television and remembered listening to radio shows and loving them. He was particularly fond of Jack Benny and his style of humor. Born in Detroit, Michigan, it was not until he was a teenager that Jack moved to the Los Angeles area. He lived most of his remaining years in his parent's home in South Gate. Judging from our conversations, he lived a very interesting life, and, at one time, was an Associate Producer for several TV shows.

During one of our talks he mentioned the time Jonathan Winters visited Abner Kreisberg's coin store and that, when Winters left he was recognized by a number of construction workers engaged next door. Mr. Winters spent a half hour doing a comedy routine for them. On another occasion, Jack mentioned that he was responsible for Jonathan Winters's first break in TV.

Jack often visited comedy clubs and spent a lot of time socializing. This led him to, at one time, owning his own nightspot. It also seems to have given him the chance to stay up to all hours and drink. He mentioned that his drinking got so bad that one night he was found drunk on the street near his club. I think it was about this time that he realized that the nightspot was not the right business for him.

He learned his lesson well and rarely consumed alcoholic beverages thereafter. It was probably about this time that Jack went into the coin business. George Kolbe has told me he had been to a coin store that Jack had in California. Jack never mentioned this to me. When talking about his early years in coins he mentioned working for or with others.

Many of the people Jack was friendly with in those days are either no longer living or are out of the coin field. Jack used to talk a lot about Walter Breen, especially before Walter's death. Jack and Walter worked well together. This melding of Walter's knowledge and Jack's sense of perfection produced some of the best work in numismatics, among which are *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents* and the first Robinson S. Brown, Jr. large cent auction catalogue. It took the abilities of both to produce these important works.

At the time of Jack's death he was working on finishing a book on the 1794 Silver Dollar. He had hoped to have this finished in 1994 and planned to produce 1,794 copies. Jack and Walter co-wrote this book and Michael Hodder was editing it. Michael is still working on this project so that the last work by this great numismatic duo will not be lost.



It should be noted that because of his desire to have a near perfect product Jack was always behind in finishing something. For example the half cent book was two or more years late and the early issues of *The Asylum* were always late. So it is a fitting memorial to Jack that this current issue is both a catch-up edition which includes reminiscences about our co-founder.

Jack will always be remembered for his numismatic publications, his coin photography, and his humor. I will miss him and his little inside jokes, like the time he sent out advance copies of one of his numismatic literature auction catalogue, numbered by Walter in his famous purple ink.

## My Friendship With Jack Collins

Michael J. Hodder

I first met Jack Collins on December 9, 1983, at the New York Sheraton Hotel. Stack's was selling the second portion of the John L. Roper, 2nd Collection, which included the Washingtonia. Jack was there, of course, as a collector. I was there for the event. I forget who introduced me to Jack, but I remember thinking that Jack was a lot smaller person than I expected him to be.

My friendship with Jack really dated from August, 1989, when I discovered that the 1794 Dollar struck in copper without obverse stars was from an entirely different die than that used to coin the 1794 Silver Dollars. By then, I had access to an early copy of Jack's study on the 1794 Silver Dollars, and I corresponded with him about the new discovery before the sale of the coin by Bowers in the 1989 ANA Convention auction. Jack was excited about the find, and incorporated the new information in his book.

It was about this time that Jack invited me to read his 1794 manuscript and make any suggestions that I cared to. Over the following several years, I came to know Jack fairly well, and considered him one of my good friends in numismatics. A few years ago he asked me if I would be the editor of record for his book. I think he felt that he was giving me a small reward for our friendship. However, his friendship was reward enough for me.

Jack and I met face to face only once, 13 years ago this coming December. Nevertheless, we formed a fast and mutually happy friendship. I always looked forward to our weekly telephone calls, during which he would often resurrect some howlingly funny stories from his days as a television producer in the 1950's. Jack and I thought alike on many issues, and I always respected his talents as one of the consummate numismatic cataloguers of our century. His Robbie Brown and Washingtonia catalogues are among the most meticulously crafted of any I have ever read. That he found little to criticize in my cataloguing of his Washingtonia Collection I took as one of the finest compliments I have ever received.

Jack was a good friend and I find that as the weeks go by I seem to miss him more, rather than less.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yes, I Do Collect Cobwebs (Sometimes!).

After reading Raphael Ellenbogen's gentle chiding of me (*The Asylum* Vol. XIII, No. 4) I finally tumbled to what his earlier article was originally all about! He had written a satire about collecting auction catalogues and I had entirely missed his point!

Clearly, I was laboring under a deficit of brain cells here. I suppose you might say that my mind was collecting cobwebs while Ellenbogen was busy collecting catalogues. Oh well. I've been known to misfire before and I'm sure I'll do it again. I just hope that next time I'll be corrected by as nice a guy as Raphael Ellenbogen showed he was.

Mike Hodder

I'm writing to thank the members of NBS for surprising me with the Armand Champa award at ANA in Denver. Those of you who know me know that I'm rarely at a loss for words, but this did the trick (when pressed, I did give a two-word acceptance speech, not printable here). I am honored, and grateful. Thank you.

Denis Loring

Recently I spent a very enjoyable evening looking through the Volume 13, Number 4 issue of *The Asylum*. The articles in it were very interesting and I would like to make a few comments on them.

On the ANA election of 1909, it seems that another leading collector was turned off by the squabbling, namely John H. Clapp of Washington, D.C., whose numismatic holdings formed the basis of the famous Eliasberg collection. Clapp was elected to the Board of Governors at the Philadelphia Convention in 1908 and ran for reelection in 1909 but was defeated. After that, Clapp, much like Virgil Brand, ended public contact with other collectors. He did not attend the Baltimore ANA Con-

vention of 1916 or the one in Washington, D.C., in 1937. Also, he never joined the Baltimore or Washington, D.C. coin clubs.

The "Coogan, Cogan or Bangs" article makes some interesting observations. As for the pronunciation of Cogan, I guess you could take your pick. Is Max Mehl's name pronounced Mell or Mail?

There is a book that lists sales by auction house: *United States Numismatic Auction Catalogs: A Bibliography*, by Lorraine S. Durst. Although I have seen this book belittled in print, I have found it useful at times. However, this method can also have problems. I recently purchased the Devlin sale held in 1893, cataloged by Edward Maris. The sale was conducted by Stan Henkels (an auction house), but held at the auction rooms of Thomas Birch's Sons. Durst lists this sale under Birch.

I was glad to see the Idell sale of 1878 mentioned. The numismatic literature and catalogs probably belonged to Attinelli. There is much of interest to the collector of early sales in this catalog, including a photolithograph of the 1828 Watkins sale, and two copies each of the Attinelli reprints of Cogan sales 2, 3 & 4. Lot 925 comprised a complete set (42) of the sale addendas privately printed for Attinelli, of which only seven complete sets were issued.

Glad to see *The Asylum* coming again.

David Hirt

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Our thanks to all who have sent complimentary comments. Our favorite, received from Pete Smith, follows: "Congratulations for a fine inaugural issue as editor of *The Asylum*. Of course, after a long wait, anything would have been welcome."

In truth, the contributors are responsible for the quality of *The Asylum*. While this combined issue brings us back on schedule, hardly any articles are on hand for the next issue, to be issued in early 1997. Please help.



## August 17, 1996 - Dazed and Confused

Pete Smith

On Saturday, August 17, 1996, I was at the ANA Convention in Denver. At about 1:00 P.M. I was talking to Leslie Elam of the ANS when Scott Rubin came by. He said something like, "Hey, come-on. We've got to pick up our trophies." I had no idea what he was talking about. Although I knew that my exhibit had placed first and Scott had placed second in the numismatic literature classification, I hadn't bothered to learn when the plaques would be presented.

We followed Greg Heim to room C209 and Greg was almost immediately called to the front to accept an award. I didn't know what award was being given. I knew that literature was Class 22 so I figured it would be half an hour before they got to us.

My quick analysis was that the program represented about one third presentation of awards and two-thirds photo opportunity as winners posed in front of the ANA banner. Then Tom Sheehan, standing on my right, said something about how they were calling me to pick up my award. Enough people were looking at me and gesturing so I walked to the front. Someone handed me a plaque and shook my hand while flashbulbs went off in my face. I walked to the back. As I opened my attaché case to put away the award, I noticed that it was the "Thos. H. Law Award for Best of First Time Exhibitor's." I didn't understand the apostrophe but was happy to receive the award. I will never have another chance to be a first time exhibitor.

Later, Thomas H. Law was presented an award. I was called back to pose with Mr. Law and more flashbulbs went off. Someone remarked later that I looked like a deer caught in headlights.

When Class 22 came, I was somewhat prepared as John Parker received the third place award and Scott Rubin received second. I was handed a plaque, someone shook my hand and flashbulbs went off.

This was the first time I had attended the ANA awards program and obviously, I was not prepared for my role. Late in the program I was struck by an ironic thought. I currently serve as Chairman of the ANA Awards Committee. It is obvious that the appointment was based on my familiarity with numismatic personalities and not my experience in the awards area.

I had missed the exhibiting and judging seminar because it was in the same time spot as John J. Ford, Jr. I knew the times for exhibit set-up and take-down but hadn't thought much about anything related to exhibits in between. There was always too much to do, with as many as three events I wanted to attend taking place at the same time.

After the Awards program, all first place winners were called to pose for a group picture. I got talking with someone and was almost late for that picture also.



At 5:00 P.M., exhibitors were allowed to remove their exhibits. I saw Scott holding number 48 indicating his turn to be checked out. I grabbed his number and wrote an S- in front it giving him a starred-reverse check-out number. (That may be an inside joke not understood by people who are not familiar with Sheldon's classification of large cents.)

As I waited my turn, I talked with chief judge Joe Boling. I asked if it would be possible after the presentation of "Best of Show" to find out where I ranked. He explained that only the first three places would be announced. Below that the exhibits were eliminated without being ranked.

The daily convention issue of *Numismatic News* suggested that people look at the die variety study of 1796 coinage, half cent through Eagle. The article indicated that replacement value would be four to five million dollars. Several people suggested that it was a sure thing for best-of-show. Nancy Green, former ANA librarian, liked a display of British gold coins as her choice for first. Several people complimented me on my exhibit. Then again, I know a lot of nice people who say nice things.

Although I had visited the exhibit area a dozen times, I had not gotten to all the exhibits and had not made any attempt to rank them. I read all the text for the literature exhibits but had not done the same in any other category. I had no idea where my exhibit should place in comparison.

I had worn a suit for my participation in the "World Series of Numismatics." I was over-dressed and eliminated in the first round. I wore my suit again during my program for the Numismatic Theater. Wearing a suit twice in one week exceeds my normal limit so I decided to dress casual for the Awards Dinner. I was at a back table and figured no one would notice.

After dinner, the master-of-ceremonies, Tom Noe, announced the awards for best-of-show. Third place went to the exhibit of die varieties of 1796 coins. Second place went to the British gold coins. The thought came into my head, "What's left?"

Then I heard that the Howland Wood "Best-of-Show" award was presented for: "The Challenging Literature of A. M. Smith." I don't recall hearing my name. I don't recall hearing applause although I was told later that three "bookies" at another table gave me a standing ovation. As I stepped on the award platform, I asked ANA President Ken Bressett if I could say something. I took the microphone and said, as I recall: "I have told people there is no way a literature exhibit will ever win 'Best of Show' at an ANA convention (deep breath). I wish I had dressed better."

Those two unconnected sentences indicated how poorly I was prepared to win. I shook hands with Bressett and Boling. Flashbulbs went off and I returned to my table. As I passed John Wilson, he shook my hand and said I looked stunned. He was right.



People later commented on my honest surprise. I was a first time exhibitor who did not know where to go, when to show up, what to expect and what to do. Fortunately, my exhibit rose above my performance.

## THE DAY AFTER

On Sunday I joined several hundred people for Membership Appreciation Day in Colorado Springs. As I was going through the ANA Money Museum, Bill Swoger asked if I was going to show my exhibit at the museum during the next year. I could understand why the ANA would show Boling's exhibit of Japanese Currency, the winner in 1995. However, I didn't think they would want to display my used books. After all, my exhibit did not contain a single coin, token, medal or piece of paper money.

Later comments by Barbara Gregory and Robert Hoge indicated that an invitation to exhibit is extended to all Howland Wood winners. Unfortunately, the ANA no longer pays the expenses of exhibitors to come to Colorado Springs to install their exhibits.

I talked to three of the five judges for the best-of-show award. One mentioned that the exhibit of 1796 coins had a spelling error in the title. Other comments indicated that my presentation was better than the 1796 exhibit. I was complimented on my research and how I carried the 'challenge' theme through the exhibit. I understand that all judges scored my exhibit first or second while the other two contenders received some third place ratings.

I talked to Fred Schwan as we waited for the bus. He told me of a new publication, "The Exhibitionist" for judges and exhibitors. He offered me Life Membership Number 1. (The same offer is made to all members.) He also indicated that I would be declared "National Champion." As I got on the bus, Barbara Gregory remarked, "This was your convention, Pete." She was probably right. I wish I had been there to enjoy it.

## COMMENTS

On August 12, I was someone who had never exhibited at an ANA convention. On August 18, I was the Howland Wood Award winner and national champion. Suddenly I am qualified to offer my opinions on exhibiting and people might listen.

The literature dealers and collectors shared their excitement that a literature exhibit won. I am credited with giving literature a boost in credibility. I find myself the unwilling champion of a cause. So, based on my vast experience, (or perhaps half vast experience) I offer a few comments.



Some people exhibit to show off their collections. Others exhibit in a quest for ribbons and trophies. Those two goals are not always compatible.

The judging for best in a classification is based on such factors as title, completeness, difficulty, condition and rarity. Judging for best-of-show includes factors for following the theme, visual effect, careful research, credit to written sources and communicating the message to a non-collector. The winning exhibit has to be effective in both areas.

I saw the exhibits in Chicago in 1991 when literature was a non-competitive demonstration sport. Armand Champa showed a few choice items in an exhibit that was too large for current competition. I saw the literature exhibits next at the ANA convention in Detroit in 1994. I thought I could prepare an exhibit that might win against that competition. Although I felt it was impossible to win best-of-show with my material in my classification, I intended to do as well as I could. I read the rules and attempted to cover all the points that would be judged. I feel it is better to set a high goal and fall short than to set a low goal and meet it. I hoped to learn from the experience so I could do better next time.

With 30 days to go before the convention, I was not sure I could get my exhibit ready in time. Within the last ten days before flying to Denver, I had bought a suitcase large enough to hold my exhibit. I bought material for my backgrounds and cut it to size, bought lettering and made my title, finalized and printed my text, bought foam-core for backing and mounted my text. I decided my final arrangement for items. I felt I could have done better if I hadn't put off so much to the end.

## TIMING AND LUCK

For each convention, a group of exhibits is judged by a group of judges. Any change in that mix could produce different results. Obviously, if I had not exhibited, someone else would have won best-in-show. There may be another exhibit that was not entered that could have won.

The winds of public favor blow in many directions. There was no literature class before 1991. Perhaps the judges this year were open to a winner in the literature field. Perhaps the judges in another year would not be as open.

## COMPLETENESS

Exhibitors know they will be judged on completeness. Some collections are not easily defined. An exhibition of Dahlonga gold can easily be judged as complete. A complete exhibit of important auction catalogs is more difficult to define.



Judges and exhibitors know tricks to meet the completeness issue. Words like 'Selected' and 'My Favorite' are used. An exhibit may be named "My Favorite 1822 Half Eagle" or "Selected Brasher Doubloons (Obverse and Reverse)". One exhibit in 1996 was titled "My Choice of ..." and the exhibitor complained that points were deducted for lack of completeness. I can understand what may be the thoughts of the judges. Although the exhibit was complete according to the title, that title was open-ended. More points are awarded for a finite collection. My collection of literature of Smith is far from complete as I am attempting to collect all publishing varieties. My exhibit met the completeness challenge with an example of each numismatic title published by Smith. That required six items in one case. The other five cases were additional copies illustrating why collecting Smith literature is a challenge. The exhibit across from me had casino chips laid edge to edge filling the 21 x 33 inch space available in each case. That is one way to show a collection, including as many items as possible. I decided not to attempt that but rather to use items from my collection to tell a story. Apparently that decision paid off.

## THE CHALLENGE OF SIZE

With coins the size of silver dollars, there is plenty of space in an exhibit case for a variety of arrangements. Arranging six books that are 10 inches high in a case that is 21 inches high doesn't allow for much creativity. After trying two rows of three books, the options get limited.

When I designed my exhibit, I used a scale model at  $\frac{1}{3}$  final size. I could move pieces of paper around on a cardboard background easier than I could move heavy or fragile books. The scale model also allowed me to move things from one case to another. Since I only had room in my cramped apartment for one case, it was impossible to set up the entire exhibit in advance.

## CONDITION

I hesitate to suggest numerical grading for book conditions but feel it works here. The best book in my exhibit might be the equivalent of an XF45 coin. The poorest might compare to a VG8 with an average grade of VF20. The rules state that condition should be judged based on "the best that is reasonably available to collectors." Out of 30 possible points, I received 29. I consider that a gift. Still it indicated that the judges considered how hard it is to find some Smith titles in nice condition. While I feel my exhibit was weak in that area, condition was not considered in the rating for best-of-show.



## COST

Much was made of the 4 to 5 million dollar value of the 1796 coins. I can't reconstruct the cost of items in my exhibit. I suspect that if you took the cost of the 1796 coins and moved the decimal point three places, that figure would exceed my cost. However, there are things in my exhibit that I bought for less than \$40 that would be hard to replace at any price.

## THE BURDEN OF EXHIBITING

My suitcase weighed 60 pounds for the flight to Denver. Although it had small wheels, getting it from my hotel to the convention center was a challenge. With the addition of three trophies and convention purchases, it weighed 76 pounds for my return flight, slightly over allowable weight. I had to remove some heavy items and put them in a box before they were accepted.

I was asked if my luggage had been out of my control. I honestly answered that it had spent the day in a security room at my hotel. That prompted a call to airport security and a trip to the x-ray machine. I looked at the image of my bag. The center had a large opaque area representing medals I had purchased. There were other odd shaped items for my exhibit including an ice pick, can opener and a large metal tray. Somehow satisfied with the examination, I was not asked to open the suitcase.

My final challenge was to carry the 76 pound suitcase up the stairs to my apartment at 1:00 A.M. Monday. It was a great convention and good to be home.

## A FINAL CHALLENGE

There may be people who are now saying: "There is no way a literature exhibit will ever win best-of-show at an ANA convention ... two years in a row." Consider that a challenge.



## A Chronology of Lyman Low's Treatise on Mexican Revolutionary Coinage

Wayne K. Homren

*This article chronicles various publications, supplements, and translations of research by Lyman H. Low into varieties of the coinage of the Mexican revolutionary General Morelos (1765-1815).*

### THE COINAGE OF GENERAL MORELOS

José Maria Morelos was born on September 7, 1765. A Catholic priest, he joined the fight for independence against the Spaniards in 1810. Despite his lack of formal education, Morelos became one of the revolution's most successful military leaders. The insurgent General Hidalgo, also a former priest, commissioned him as Captain General of the southwest coast provinces.

In response to an acute shortage of money, Hidalgo completed the construction of the first revolutionary mint in late October 1810. The mint's first coins were close imitations of the Spanish silver coinage of the Mexico City mint. Spanish authorities captured the mint in November, and shipped its equipment to Mexico City.

The following year, General Morelos decided to mint a low-value copper promissory coinage, which would circulate until the victorious rebels could redeem it in silver and gold. A translation of Morelos' edict was published in Pradeau's *Numismatic History of Mexico* :

Commissioned by the American National Congress as represented by their excellencies Messrs. Hidalgo, Allenda, etc. to free the South, and being in need of current gold and silver coin, I have decided that copper coin be stamped in the city of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Province of Tépán. At the termination of the campaign, or perhaps before, as it is expected that the mines of this district will soon begin working anew, this coinage will be redeemed by the National Treasury at its face value, in gold or silver currency. And in order that this copper money receive the same exchange value as that of gold and silver, it must meet the following requisites: each piece must conform as to size and thickness with the current silver coins of similar face value. The new coin will have on one side, an arrow; below it the inscription SUR (meaning SOUTH) indicative of the direction of the wind; on the other side it will have in one symbol, a monogram of the letters MOS, an abbreviation of the name of Morelos; over it, the value of the piece, be it a peso, tostón, peseta, real or medio, (eight, four, two, one, or half-real, respectively).

This coinage is truly a legal document by which the National Treasury promises to pay in gold or silver currency the value indicated by each piece. Therefore, it should have the same value when presented anywhere within the territory where the present Mexican coin is acceptable.

As this edict will be made public by the town crier, no one will have the excuse of ignorance of the information contained herein. Issued from General Headquarters at Tixla, the thirteenth day of July, 1811. Signed: José Ma. Morelos, General in command of the South. - Executed by order of his excellency, Félix Ortiz, Secretary.<sup>1</sup>

Coinage began soon after this edict, and continued intermittently through 1815. Morelos and his forces were very active in this period. In November, 1811 Morelos embarked on a campaign wherein he rapidly occupied several towns. In 1812 he moved south and captured Orizaba and Oaxaca. In February 1813 he reached Acapulco, finally taking the city in August after a four-month siege. Royalist forces turned the tide in 1814, and Morelos retreated, burning Acapulco to cinders before leaving. Morelos was finally captured at Tezamalaca on November 5, 1815, and shot by a firing squad forty-seven days later.

### LOW'S STUDY

In August 1885, a young American archeologist excavating in the Mexican state of Oaxaca, uncovered a straw pouch containing 428 copper coins of the type issued by General Morelos. The discovery was the first significant hoard of the coinage to come to light by that time. The following table summarizes the contents of the hoard:

Year	Denomination	No. of Pieces
1811	2 Reales	4
1812	8 Reales	31
1812	2 Reales	258
1812	1 Real	2
1813	8 Reales	59
1813	2 Reales	74
Total		428

On June 2, 1886, dealer Lyman H. Low of New York, then librarian of the American Numismatic and Archeological Society, presented a paper before the Society summarizing the results of his study of the hoard and other related coins. The paper was entitled *A Sketch of the Coinage of the Mexican Revolutionary General Morelos Based Upon an Important Find*.<sup>2</sup>

In Low's words, at the time:

...no thought was entertained of its being put in type. I was afterwards induced by friends in the science to illustrate and publish it, and it appeared in the July number, 1886, of the American Journal of Numismatics, from which I had 300 copies reprinted and distributed among collectors here and in Europe. Its arrangement was not well suited for ready reference or recognition of types and varieties. Nevertheless, I have seen that its publication has worked some good results.<sup>3</sup>

The article appearing in the AJN was a extract with no illustrations.<sup>4</sup> The printed version contained Low's full text with illustrations. Low chose to describe a sample of thirty-one pieces, representing all the major types and varieties known to him at the time. For completeness, descriptions of the known silver pieces were also included.



## TRANSLATIONS OF LOW'S STUDY

This article was prompted by the author's recent acquisition of an unusual pamphlet: an 1893 publication, printed in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A comparison of the text and illustrations indicates the pamphlet is a direct translation into Spanish of Low's 1886 monograph. The pamphlet does not appear in the holdings of the American Numismatic Society. The cover reads as follows:

APUNTES SOBRE LAS MONEDAS  
DEL  
**CURA MORELOS**  
(GENERAL DE LA REVOLUCION DE MÉJICO)  
BASADOS EN UN IMPORTANTE HALLAZGO  
Y LEIDOS  
ANTE LA SOCIEDAD AMERICANA DE NUMISMATICA Y ARQUEOLOGIA DE NEW-YORK  
POR  
LYMAN HAYNES LOW

Low published a supplement to his article in the July 1894 issue of the *AJN*. In it he states:

I have recorded since 1886 some new types and marked varieties, without attempting to note the many minutely varying. To have drawn together all of this latter class which have passed through my hands, would have been a long and tedious undertaking, with little assurance that I could have secured all. Dr. Nicolas Leon, of the City of Mexico, has kindly expressed the desire to publish my brochure in Spanish, and I promised to give him a supplement of what I had acquired on the subject, to be included in his edition. I have rather reluctantly followed the same method of arrangement and descriptions, that uniformity may be preserved.<sup>5</sup>

This statement is curious, in that apparently neither Low nor Dr. Leon were aware of the Buenos Aires publication of the previous year. Dr. Leon finally published his work in Cuernavaca, State of Morelos, Mexico, in 1897. It was titled *La Moneda del General Insurgente Don José María Morelos*.<sup>6</sup> In 1899, Leon published a 7-page supplement to his monograph.

## SUMMARY

The following table shows a chronology of events relating to Low's treatise:

DATE	EVENT
August 1885	Hoard of Morelos copper coins discovered
June 1886	Low delivers paper to ANS
July 1886	Low paper published in AJN
1886	Low paper expanded and published as a separate monograph
1893	Spanish translation printed in Buenos Aires
July 1894	Low publishes supplement in AJN
1897	Dr. Leon publishes Spanish translation of expanded monograph
1899	Dr. Leon publishes a 7-page supplement to his monograph, also in Spanish, in the journal "Sociedad Científica 'Antonio Alzate' Mexico: Revista Científica y Bibliográfica"
1899	Dr. Leon publishes his supplement as a separate monograph
1968	Terrance Stoddard publishes a reprint of Low's original 1886 monograph and 1894 AJN supplement

While Lyman Low is remembered today primarily for his auction sales and his classic reference on U. S. Hard Times tokens, he made significant numismatic contributions in other areas as well. There is a clear path leading from Low's initial article to today's body of numismatic knowledge on the Mexican revolutionary coinage of General Morelos. The widespread publication and translation of his work was a significant step in our understanding of this enigmatic series, fulfilling Low's modestly stated goal in his first article:

In conclusion, it is hoped that some new light has been thrown upon numismatic science by this fresh store of coins. A more extended and detailed account might be proper and opportune to form a record; but, with the limited time at my disposal, only a cursory glance has been given. This simple array of facts may, however, suffice to lead to further investigation of this interesting coinage of the western world, and thus form a basis for a more exhaustive study, which, from its closely allied associations, cannot fail to attract the attention and excite the interest of all lovers of the science.<sup>7</sup>



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to thank the following individuals for their assistance in preparing this article:

HARRY W. BASS, for providing early access to his marvelous Numismatic Indexes Project (NIP), which enabled quick location of Low's American Journal of Numismatics articles.

FRANCIS D. CAMPBELL, Librarian of the American Numismatic Society, for providing photocopies of several variants of the Low and Leon publications.

LYNN CHEN, Librarian of the American Numismatic Association, for providing photocopies of the Low AJN articles.

KEN "I just happen to have an Argentinean numismatic bibliography right here" LOWE, for his infectious enthusiasm for obscure numismatic trivia and ephemera.

GERALD PORTER, for background information on early Mexican coinage.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Pradeau, Alberto Francisco, *Numismatic History of Mexico*, Los Angeles, CA, 1938, p100-101

<sup>2</sup>Pradeau, p108

<sup>3</sup>Low, Lyman H. *A Supplement to the Sketch of the Coinage of the Mexican Revolutionary General Jose Maria Morelos*, in the American Journal of Numismatics, July, 1894, p10-11

<sup>4</sup>Low, Lyman H., *Coinage of the Mexican Revolutionary Morelos*, in the American Journal of Numismatics, July, 1886, p17-22

<sup>5</sup>Low, Lyman H., *A Supplement...*, p10-11

<sup>6</sup>Pradeau, p108

<sup>7</sup>Low, Lyman H., *Coinage...*, p22

## A. N. A. Meeting Report

### P. Scott Rubin

This year's NBS meeting took place on August 16th, 1996, in Denver, Colorado, at the American Numismatic Association Convention. The following members signed in:

David T. Alexander	Remy Bourne	Bill Burd	Phil Carrigan
Armand Champa	Sandra Champa	Keith Davignon	Carl Feldman
George Fitzgerald	John J. Ford	Nancy Green	Mike Greenspan
Dave Hirt	Wayne Homren	Leroy J. Kaczor	Brad Karoleff
George Kolbe	Denis Loring	Ken Lowe	Judy Matherne
Jan Monroe	Col. Bill Murray	Joel Orosz	Ed Price
P. Scott Rubin	Tom Sheehan	Pete Smith	Kerry Wetterstrom
Don Young	Myron Xenos		

The highlights of the meeting were the presentation of the Armand Champa award to Denis Loring and the Aaron Feldman award to Frank Van Zandt. Both of these gentlemen have been of considerable service to NBS and the numismatic literature community in general. Denis was on hand to pass the hat and encourage donations at one of our annual meetings a number of years ago when NBS was in financial trouble. He also came up with the idea of establishing a Numismatic Literature Exhibit Class at the ANA convention. Frank has spent much time and energy on behalf of our organization in his capacity as Secretary/Treasurer, besides writing a number of fine articles for *The Asylum*.

When the meeting began, members were invited to introduce themselves and talk about their collecting interests and activities. P. Scott Rubin then gave a short presentation on our current understanding of what it takes to complete a collection of W. Elliot Woodward auction sales. With the help of the McLachlan Set, acquired by Frank Van Zandt from a George Kolbe sale, and the information published by Bowers & Merena in the Armand Champa Sales catalogues, catalogued by Charles Davis, Mr. Rubin was able to add information not available to John W. Adams when he wrote his wonderful book *United States Numismatic Literature, Volume One*.

During the talk, David Hirt displayed a copy of the addenda to Woodward's 91st sale which he had recently purchased at the auction of Frank Katen's outstanding library. No one in the room could remember seeing a copy, though one is included in the McLachlan set. Both copies feature two handwritten additional lots. Even though it is collected with the Woodward series, this particular addenda does not offer numismatic items for sale. It appears to be quite rare.

In closing, members were invited to join us next year in New York City.



## In Remembrance of a Numismatic Genius — Walter Breen Jack Collins

*Editor's Note: The following article was found in Jack Collins' computer. It was originally written on May 6, 1993; last revised on December 7, 1994. It appears here unchanged.*

Walter H. Breen made his entrance onto the numismatic stage in 1950, after a historic meeting with John J. Ford, Jr., in New York City. In turn, Ford introduced Breen to Wayte Raymond shortly thereafter, and those two fateful encounters would forever change the course of numismatics in the United States.

Even then, Breen was considered an anomaly, with a phenomenal memory that could digest an entire page of a Manhattan telephone directory in just a few minutes, and then moments later recite upon command any address and telephone number when prompted with the resident's name.

Then, the capacity of his mind was virtually limitless. He was capable of speaking and writing in at least five languages. In his search for religious reason and truth, he familiarized himself with the texts of a number of sacred writings of many religions. He never found any one religion that could give him the answers he was seeking. In fact, after his incarceration as a child in an orphanage in Wheeling, West Virginia, he made no hesitation to express his intense dislike of Catholicism—and most other organized religious organizations.

For the most part of his adult life, especially his later years, he was a lonely and depressed man, with long bouts of suicidal contemplation. He only found solace in classical music, to which he was chronically addicted all during his waking hours. To combat loneliness, he became a workaholic, endlessly researching, writing and rewriting. During this dark emotional period, he produced much of his classic work—his opus on United State Half Cents, followed with his researches on California Gold, his masterpiece opus, *The Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, and lastly, a soon-to-be-published work on the history of the dollar.

Walter was possessed of a very complex personality, as appears to be the case with most geniuses. Similar bizarre and eccentric personality traits appear to be inherent with being a genius. When it came to numismatics, he was a genius without peer—quite possibly the first and only one to ever appear in the field of numismatics. Over more than four decades, no one person has contributed more to further the knowledge of numismatics than Walter Breen—and no one has received less for his efforts. Many of those collectors and dealers who have long profited from Walter's writings and researches were among the first to condemn him for his personal failings.

The following is a brief recollection of Walter Breen from the time we first met more than thirty years ago.

In 1960, I attended a California State Numismatic Association convention at the Ulysses S. Grant Hotel, in San Diego. I had along with me a MCMVII double eagle in satin finish proof from the F. C. C. Boyd estate, which I had recently acquired from a Kreisberg-Schulman auction in New York. Several friends had examined the piece and concluded that it was no different from a regular business strike—its proof status could not be confirmed. Someone pointed out a tall, bushy-haired individual wearing a dirty white antique automobile car duster, carrying a small paper bag with a large grease stain on the side. I was told that was Walter Breen, and he could confirm or deny whether my coin was indeed a proof or not. I approached him shyly, introduced myself, and told him about the coin in question, and offered it for his examination. His response was "I'll look at anything once." Over the years that I came to know Walter, I was to hear him utter that line innumerable times—it virtually became his signature line. He handed the piece back and stated that he did not have enough information yet to render an opinion about those so-called satin-finish proofs. I watched him as he turned and left the bourse room and walked to the center of the hotel lobby, where he sat down on a round tufted velvet banquette, opened his paper bag, extracted a large pork chop, and ate it in a flash, leaving a few scattered fragments in his beard.

I saw Walter again several years later at a convention in San Francisco, at the Jack Tarr Hotel. In the early 1960s, that was one of the most popular shows on the convention circuit, and was not to be missed. I was standing at the table of my late friend, Steve Kosoff, when Walter approached and looked through his display case with careful scrutiny. Steve barked at him that there was nothing of interest in there for him. His tone was such that there was no mistaking his intent—and Walter got the point. There had been some recent friction between them over a review that Walter wrote about Abe Kosoff's then current catalogue of the Dr. Judd collection, *Illustrated History of United States Coins*. Walter said in print something to the effect that it was not a history at all, but a price list disguised as such, and that most of the pieces were patterns, not coins—and that little information, if any, could be derived from it.

Sometime about that same year, I heard from a mutual friend, Jon Hanson, that Walter had come into Beverly Hills to examine auction lots at the Coin Gallery, operated by Abner Kreisberg and Jerry Cohen, on Beverly Drive. They had just renovated the store, including the installation of an expensive new red carpet. Jon pulled up in front to let Walter out of the car while he looked for a parking space. It was during a pouring rainstorm, and Walter landed with both feet in a river of rainwater at the curb. He ran in to the store, sat down on a small stool, took off both sandals and socks,



and then proceeded to wring the wet socks out on the new red carpet. Kreisberg, Cohen, and their secretary, Harriet, all watched aghast with their mouths and eyes open wide in complete disbelief. Walter, as many know who knew him well, was totally oblivious of the world around him. He had no concept of exactly what he was doing, only that he had to get those wet socks off.

In late 1966, Walter published a plea for help with his book project covering the late-date large cent series from 1816-1857. I decided to telephone him at his home on Staten Island, and volunteer my help. We talked for several hours about this and that, but mostly the large cents that I was then very much involved in collecting. I found him to be a fascinating, multi-faceted individual, with an intellect far beyond anyone I had ever encountered before. He could discuss almost any subject you could think of in great depth. After that, we talked periodically, mostly about large cents and the like.

Several years after that, Walter began attending the Long Beach conventions on a regular basis, and needed a place to stay. Knowing that he was almost always without funds, I offered to let him stay at my house. This continued on for over twenty years whenever there was a major convention in the Los Angeles area. We shared a common love for classical music, mine in particular was for the works of Ludvig von Beethoven. He seemed not to play favorites with his tastes in classical music. He enjoyed anything and everything that came under the banner of classical. The only category of music he didn't care for was country-western. I knew that he possessed a phenomenal memory, but when it came to classical music, he would only have to hear at most only a bar or two before correctly identifying both the composer and the title. In fact, during one of his first visits to my home, I was listening to an opera in which the libretto was in archaic German, and Walter proceeded to translate it! Of course, there was no way that I could ever prove or disprove whether he was correct or not.

Walter never had too much luck in getting his works published. He had completed manuscript drafts on New Jersey cents, patterns, half cents, large cents from 1816 onward, and a number of other series. Many of these unfinished texts and notes were stolen from him while he was working in New York in the late 1960s. About that time, I tried to purchase the text for the proof coin book, which had been sold to Bowers and Ruddy, but without success. I came up with the idea of producing a series of books on American coinage, with Walter as the principal author. Over the years, we discussed many times publishing an encyclopedia on every denomination of United States coinage. The first was the half cent book; the second was the large cent book from 1793-1814; the third and final book is the history and genealogy of the 1794 dollar, scheduled to be published October 15,

1994—hopefully, on the day of the bicentennial of the coining of the first United States dollar.

At the close of his life, he was alone and penniless, and his estate left deep in debt due to a greedy lawyer who charged him \$2,000 a week over a year and a half for a defense that he never received.

He saw a void in the knowledge of our beloved numismatics and filled it. In every sense of the word, Walter Breen was a true genius, as his works touched every one of us for the enrichment of all. Without his efforts, the numismatic stage would be a very dark place, indeed.

With the impact that Walter Breen had on numismatics, it is doubtful that there will ever again be anyone to tread in his footsteps. He was unique in every sense of the word, and we were fortunate to have shared his time here with us. He lit a candle in the darkness, and the glow from that lamp of knowledge will shine on in numismatics for generations to come.

### Recent Publications on Book Collecting

A new bi-monthly publication entitled *Biblio: The Magazine for Collectors of Books, Manuscripts, and Ephemera* recently began publication. The first issue is dated July-August 1996 and three numbers have been published to date. Topics covered thus far include book preservation, the Kelmscott Press, protecting your collection against thieves, and an alarming article on replevin (as currently being applied, the rules of replevin allow State governments to claim ownership of records and documents once officially discarded). Regular features include reports on American and international auctions and a column by Nicholas Basbanes, the author of a marvelous 1995 book on book collecting and collectors entitled *A Gentle Madness: Bibliophiles, Bibliomanes, and the Eternal Passion for Books*.

*Biblio* is a quality publication, in large magazine format, with numerous color illustrations. Subscription information may be obtained by calling 1-800-840-3810. For anyone involved in the world of rare books it is required reading and, even if your interest is limited to numismatics, there is much of interest. The Basbanes book is a must read for bibliophiles of all stripes. It will make a memorable holiday gift. The publisher is Henry Holt and Company, New York, ISBN 0-8050-3653-9.



## The Chicago Numismatic Society and the Issuance of *The Bulletin*

William A. Burd

*Reprinted with permission from Chicago Coin Club Chatter, July 1996*

The Chicago Numismatic Society held their first meeting on January 26, 1904 and over the next several years became very well established. Monthly meetings involved exhibits such as the 1804 Dexter dollar, proof large cents, patterns and early 19th century gold in mint condition. Also, important papers were being read before many of the meetings. Active members included Virgil Brand, William Dunham, Ben Green, M. P. Carey, G. W. Tracy and others. And, by 1908 the Society felt a bulletin should be published.

The minutes of the 49th meeting held on February 7, 1908 stated "The principal discussion of the evening was upon the advisability of publishing 'The Bulletin' monthly, at the expense of the society, and distributing it, to members, without charge. All of the members present appeared deeply interested in the project, and directed the Censor to prepare and publish an experimental number, with the assistance of such members as could be prevailed upon to help."

In February 1908, Vol. 1, No. 2 of *The Bulletin* was published. On page 15 of this issue an article was written regarding the issuing of a bulletin and the purpose for it. The article included the following observation "The object or purpose of a numismatic society should not be alone to institute and encourage study and research in its chosen field, but also to disseminate the information and knowledge which it gathers."

In Vol. 1, No. 3 of *The Bulletin* dated March 1908 it states in the minutes of the 50th Meeting that "It was determined to issue The Bulletin monthly and an editorial committee, consisting of the President [Virgil Brand] and four members to be selected by him, were placed in charge."

It is important at this time to clarify when the first issue was published. It would seem Vol. 1, No. 2 would logically be the second issue. However, as you can see from the above comments it was the first. The reason it is shown as No. 2 is because it was published in February and follows the same format as *The Numismatist* which continues the page numbering throughout the year and issues numbers 1 through 12 to correspond with each month. Vol. 1, No. 2 of *The Bulletin* begins with page 9 and ends with 16. No. 3 begins with page 17 and ends with 24 and each monthly bulletin thereafter is eight pages long and the page numbering continues. There never was a Vol. 1, No. 1 or pages 1 through 8.

*The Bulletin* was issued monthly through August 1908 at which point it appears to have ceased publication and did not surface again until the lat-

ter part of 1911. Although there is no hard evidence that August was the last issue, my library and the American Numismatic Society library includes issues No. 2 through 8 only and there is no record of an issue No. 9 being published.

In November 1911 the Chicago Numismatic Society issued *The Bulletin*. It consisted of one 6x9 inch sheet printed on both sides. It begins:

THIS, then is the BULLETIN, come to life as a result of a motion at the November meeting instructing the Secretary to have printed an announcement of the December meeting and any other matter that might be received by him from members.

The December 1911 issue and all issues thereafter consisted of 2 sheets folded over creating 4 pages measuring 6x9 inches. Each issue had month and year shown, however no consecutive numbering system was employed. Issued monthly from November 1911 until May 1913, it abruptly came to a halt with this announcement on the last page of the May issue.

As there seems to be a unanimous disposition on the part of the members to quietly sit by and let "George do it", the editor is of the opinion that this had better be the finis in the way of Bulletins; he fearing he may be unable to get out the usual four pages during dog days without help.

And this indeed was the last issue - until 1914.

In October 1914, *The Bulletin* was issued consisting of 4 pages (one sheet 8 1/2 x 11 folded over) with the first page similar to the original *Bulletin* in February of 1908 and the second page similar to those issued in 1912-1913. The third was a eulogy to Ben Green who died suddenly on January 17, 1914. On page four it states: "...interesting study of Roman coins which has been carried on in the columns of the Bulletin by Carey will continue in our next." Also on the last page it states: "...the Entertainment Committee is willing to edit future Bulletins if the financial part can be arranged."

Apparently the finances were not arranged and the bulletin was not issued again. And in less than a year the Chicago Numismatic Society held its last reported meeting.

The following is a complete list of the CNS Bulletins.

YEAR	CONSECUTIVE MONTHS	VOL. NO.	TOTAL NO. OF ISSUES
1908	February-August	Vol. 1	7: Nos. 2-8
1911	November-December	None	2: Unnumbered
1912	January-December	None	12: Unnumbered
1913	January-May	None	5: Unnumbered
1914	October	None	1: Unnumbered



## Early Auctions by the Chicago Coin Club

William A. Burd

*Reprinted with permission from Chicago Coin Club Chatter, June 1996*

In the Armand Champa Library Auction Sale-Part II conducted by Bowers and Merena, Inc. on March 23, 1995 a *Chicago Coin Club Auction List*, dated February 2, 1938, containing 83 lots on a single sheet, was offered for sale. It sold for \$280.00 plus 10% buyer's fee. Armand Champa originally obtained this from Lee Hewitt at the same time he purchased Hewitt's personal set of Chicago Coin Club *Bulletins* dated 1936-1939.

A second copy of this list was discovered the day after the Champa Sale and was sold in The Money Tree's 23<sup>rd</sup> mail bid sale on June 24th, 1995 for \$125.00 plus 10% buyer's fee. They sold a third copy in their 24<sup>th</sup> mail bid sale on November 18, 1995 for \$51.00 plus 10% buyers fee.

After the Champa Sale collectors of this type of material took a closer look at their holdings and these two copies came to light. It appears the auction lists were inserted into the *Bulletin* at the time they were mailed and were easy enough to locate almost 60 years later. Although more may surface, this remains a scarce piece of numismatic ephemera.

Why this auction was held and how it fits into the activities of the Chicago Coin Club can be answered by reviewing the Club *Bulletins* from that era.

It began in November of 1935 when the Chicago Coin Club issued a pamphlet to commemorate their 200<sup>th</sup> meeting. Lee Hewitt was Chairman of the Arrangements Committee and no doubt was the author of the pamphlet. Shortly after their 200<sup>th</sup> meeting it was decided to issue a quarterly bulletin. Following the same format, the first issue of the *Chicago Coin Club Bulletin* was issued in March 1936. Lee F. Hewitt was chairman of the Bulletin Committee and Merrill V. Sheldon was editor. It certainly made sense for Mr. Hewitt to be involved since he was an accomplished editor and publisher having the previous year launched his *Numismatic Scrapbook*.

In the July 1936 issue of the *Bulletin* (Volume 1, No. 2) mention was made that the June auction was a success with 120 lots bringing \$156.75. Also stated was "Profits accrued from these auctions go to the 'Bulletin fund' to pay for its publication. A 15% commission is charged for these quarterly printed auctions. The commission charge for the regular meeting auctions is 10%"

It is important to note that the quarterly auctions were "printed" whereas the regular auctions at each monthly meeting were less formal and simply involved bringing coins to the meeting and showing them to interested members and then conducting an auction during the meeting.

The October 1936 issue of the *Bulletin* (Volume 1, No. 3) was an 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> by 11 sheet of paper folded in half to create four pages. Pages 3 and 4 consisted of the "October Auction List" announcing the club meeting and auction to be held on October 7, 1936 and a list of 90 lots with brief descriptions and grades. On page two of this bulletin it states: "For a successful Auction Night at least 125 lots are necessary. Your co-operation is needed; both as a buyer and seller - remember, the Bulletin is made possible by these auctions."

The November 1936 issue of the *Bulletin* (Volume 1, No. 4) is six pages long, the last four pages being the December Auction List with 138 lots listed. At some point after this issue, and prior to February 1938 the auction list began to be issued separately by the Auction Committee.

In the November 1938 *Bulletin*, president William G. Rayson wrote an open letter to the members regarding the Bulletin being made possible by commissions from occasional auctions. He stated the burden was on the chairman of the auction committee, Matthew H. Jackson. Rayson states "Cataloging an auction sheet is not an enviable job, but Matthew makes light of it..."

In the October 1939 *Bulletin* it states: "another of those good auctions will be held at the November meeting. If you have anything to get rid of send it to Mr. Jackson so that it can be put in the catalogue."

The December 1940 *Bulletin* includes another article by William G. Rayson, at this time a Director of the Club, entitled *Putting on a Coin Auction*. He explains the work done by Matthew Jackson involving receiving the coins, classifying and grading them, deciding where to place them in the auction, and finally typing the list. He then sends it to Mr. Kopicki who in turn has it mimeographed or printed as the case may be and mails it to the members.

From all of this we can surmise the auction list was originally made part of the *Bulletin* during 1936 and 1937. Then the February 1938 auction was printed separately but mailed with the *Bulletin*. And after that it was printed and mailed separately from the *Bulletin*. By 1942 the *Bulletin* became an annual issue and no doubt the auctions were no longer a quarterly event. As more data is made available we will be able to make an accurate list of *printed* auctions held by the Chicago Coin Club. In the meantime this information should help those who are attempting to collect the Club auctions as well as the *Bulletins*.

The following is a complete list of the Chicago Coin Club Bulletins.



YEAR	MONTHS ISSUED	VOLUME No.	ISSUE NOS.
1936	Mar, July, Oct, Nov	1	1-4
1937	Mar, June, Nov	2	1-3
1938	Feb, May, Aug, Nov	3	1-4
1939	Feb, June, Oct, Dec	4	1-4
1940	Mar, June, Sept, Dec	5	1-4
1941	Mar, June, Sept, Dec	6	1-4
1942	Mar	7	1
1943	(Jan)	8	Annual
1944	(Jan)	9	Annual
1947	(Dec)	10	Annual
1949	(Dec)	11	Annual
1950	(Dec)	12	Annual
1951	(Dec)	(13)	Annual
1952	(Dec)	(14)	Annual
1953	(Dec)	(15)	Annual
1955	(Dec)	(16)	Annual
1957	(Dec)	16 (17)	Annual

In 1960 a special souvenir booklet was issued for the 500<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

In 1969 an Annual Bulletin was issued to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Club.

In 1976 an Annual Bulletin was issued to commemorate the Bicentennial.

## «Ancient Grease»

## Some Thoughts on the Lubrication of Leather Joints

Dominic Riley

Get into conversation with any fine bookseller and it won't be long before you're talking about nose grease. I was initiated into the mysteries of the grease spots of the face when I was at bookbinding college in London. For example, when gilding the top edge of a book, the squirrel hair tip (a flat, thin brush) is touched on the forehead before being used to pick up the gold leaf, the grease from the forehead giving just the right amount of "pull." The bone-folder - the all-purpose binder's tool - is kept lubricated by rubbing on the nape of the neck. And nose grease is applied to the joint of binding to send it out into the world with an extra bit of oiling where it's going to need it most.

Book restorers will tell you that the most common treatment of leather bindings is the repair of broken joints. This is especially true of eighteenth and nineteenth century bindings, when heavy boards and thinly pared leather were common. The joints are, in fact, the most vulnerable part of a leather binding. Whereas the leather on the boards and the spine is supported by solid surfaces, the thin strip in between is unsupported and under constant strain as the book is opened and closed.

Needless to say, nose grease isn't much good for people with large collections (unless they also have large, greasy noses), and so a good quality leather dressing is recommended. Providing the joints are not already badly damaged, regular dressing can help to keep them supple, thus prolonging the life of the leather considerably. If applied correctly, a good dressing will clean and penetrate the leather, replace original oils, prevent embrittlement and offer a buffer against external pollutants.

Traditional leather dressing is 60% neatsfoot oil, 40% lanolin. Another, thicker preparation contains beeswax. There are also leather milks available for washing mildewed and dusty bindings.

Leather dressing should be applied extremely sparingly to the joints, and if possible, done by a professional restorer. Most book restorers are happy to help people decide on the best treatment for weak or rotten joints, and may even show them how to apply the dressing themselves. A golden rule is 'when you can see it going on, you're using too much;' over-dressing can be as dangerous as no dressing - smothering the leather, making the surface tacky and generally giving the binding an unpleasant look. It is worth noting that throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries many of the fine bindings we enjoy today spent generations sitting on the shelf, only being brought down every year for an annual dusting by the servants. Now that the old ways have happily passed, these same books spend their



time traveling busily round the world, being bought and sold and stored and shipped and handled a great deal. In the course of their travels they are at risk from both air pollution and clumsy knocks.

Given these dangers, not to protect the joints with a little careful dressing seems at best unwise and at worst indictable.

*[Dominic Riley is a book restorer in Berkeley, California. He edits Gold Leaf, a journal on bookbinding. He can be reached at (510) 525-5614]*

## NUMISMATIC LITERATURE AUCTION CALENDAR

SALE DATE	FIRM	SALE LOCATION
December 7, 1996	Kolbe & Spink	New York City
December 7, 1996	Money Tree	Rocky River, Ohio
December 16, 1996	Orville J. Grady	Omaha, Nebraska
January 20, 1997	Function Associates	St. Petersburg, Florida
March 24, 1997	Function Associates	St. Petersburg, Florida
May 26, 1997	Function Associates	St. Petersburg, Florida
June 9, 1997	George Frederick Kolbe	Crestline, California
August 18, 1997	Function Associates	St. Petersburg, Florida
October 20, 1997	Function Associates	St. Petersburg, Florida

*Note: NBS member dealers are invited to submit the details of future sales to the Editor for inclusion in the Numismatic Literature Auction Calendar*

## How Can a Coin be in Two Places at the Same Time? Or, Collecting Catalogs Solves a Mystery Norman J. Cochrane

I have two 40 page books entitled *Dollars of the World*, described on the titles as "An exhibition of coins selected from the Louis G. Kaufman collection of silver pieces of dollar size issued by 429 civil and religious authorities throughout the world during four centuries." One volume is from the First National Bank and Trust Co. of Marquette, Michigan featuring the title and a coin illustration on the card cover, embossed and printed in silver. The other volume is from the Chatham Phenix National Bank and Trust Co. of New York City, with the title and coin illustration printed in silver on the cover but not embossed.

Neither book is dated but both mention 1928 as the current year in the text and both also mention that 442 years have passed since the issuance of the earliest known "dollar." It is depicted on the back covers, described as being "the earliest dollar ever made - coined for the Province of Tyrol, by Sigismund, Arch-Duke of Austria in 1486." Of the coin, one book claims that "It is now in the First National Bank and Trust Company;" the other volume asserts that "It is now in the Chatham Phenix."

Also in my possession is the solution to this seeming impossibility: the August 4-5, 1978 Rarcoa catalog of the N. M. Kaufman Collection. N. M. Kaufman, who died in 1918, was Louis G. Kaufman's brother. Louis died in 1942. Both men were coin collectors, born in Marquette, Michigan. In the catalog introduction, an explanation concerning the wandering coin(s) is supplied.

When he went to New York City, Louis naturally brought his coin collection with him. He decided to share its beauty and history with others, so he placed it on display at the newly-formed Chatham-Phenix Bank where he was president. It was viewed by numerous admirers, so when he went back to Marquette in 1927 to build a new bank structure (for which he also donated the land), L. G. decided to place it on permanent display for what he called "the education and benefit of youth."

I assume the coins were moved in 1928 or, at least, after the New York volume was printed. Inside my copy of the "Marquette" version of the book is a letter dated August 28, 1931 transmitting the volume to R. Kohler, Esq., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City. The letterhead proclaims "Louis G. Kaufman - President." After driving by the First National Bank and Trust Company of Marquette several times a year while attending college at Houghton, Michigan, I was finally able to view the collection around 1962:

In the directors' room he had special wall safes and display cases built — [to house mostly a United States and Colonial/Private/territorial selection] — And plaques above the wall safes proudly proclaimed it as being the N. M. Kaufman Collection, the sort of memorial that Louis felt his brother Nathan richly deserved."



## The Printer's Devil

Joel J. Orosz, NLG

When it comes to knowledge, collectors of numismatic literature are like stalagmites: growth comes by accretion. Knowledge has accreted in your columnist since the summer of 1993, when this space was occupied by a consideration of the June 12-13, 1855, M. Thomas & Sons sale of the *Extensive and Valuable Collection of Coins and Medals in Gold, Silver, and Copper, the property of A. C. Kline*. At the time, no information was to be had either about Mr. Kline, or about R. H. Davids, whose copy of the Kline Collection sale was examined in that column. Now, your correspondent knows a little about both men, and has even seen Mr. Kline — or at least, his image on paper. In the process, a little light was shed on the period when the American coin hobby, to borrow a term from the economist Walt Whitman Rostow, had reached its take-off phase.

This knowledge was unearthed the old-fashioned way: by sheer chance. The late newspaperman Sydney J. Harris used to occasionally do a piece entitled *Things I Learned While Looking Up Other Things*. And so it was here. While in the process of searching for an illustration of Joseph Mickley, your columnist recalled that he was in possession of a reproduction plate of Mason's *Photographic Gallery of the Coin Collectors of the United States*. The original of this plate was published by Philadelphia dealer Ebenezer Locke Mason, Jr., in *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine* for March of 1869. The reproduction plate was created by bibliophile Remy Bourne and distributed gratis by numismatic literature dealer Cal Wilson in the March-October 1986 issue of his house organ, *The Repository*. Sure enough, the plate contained a nice portrait of the father of American coin collecting; but it also had 47 other images, including that of the plate's creator, Mr. Mason. It was the 48th and final image, however, that caught the eye: A. C. Kline, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kline is depicted looking to the viewer's right, dapper in his best suit, with a calm and dignified expression to match. Long side whiskers of the mutton-chop variety terminate near the chin, where in-between sprouts a separate goatee. No mustache, however, is in evidence.

As interesting as it was to come face-to-face with the creator of the first systematic and significant collection of coins to cross an American auction block, Joseph Mickley was the quarry here and the encounter with Kline would have gone no farther if it had not been for the arrival, a couple of weeks later, of a letter from the former editor of *The Asylum*. In the course of cataloging Armand Champa's copy of the Kline sale for the second of the auctions by Bowers and Merena offerings of the Champa collection, Charles Davis had noticed that Davids was listed as the buyer of a number of lots in this copy of Kline, which is ruled, priced, named, and even addressed.

Charlie raised an interesting question: Could the clerk who did the naming have made an error in transcription? Could RHD have been written instead of RCD? In other words, might R. H. Davids really have been Robert Coulton Davis?

There was that possibility. Scribes have been known to err, and Davids and Davis are very close. The dates would work; according to Pete Smith's *American Numismatic Biographies*, Davis (1813-1888) could well have been an active collector in 1855. He was a Philadelphian, so he might have been on the spot at the M. Thomas & Sons sales venue. Could it have been at the Kline sale that he began the magnificent collection that New York Stamp & Coin would sell January 20-24, 1890? Your columnist turned back to the copy of the Kline catalog, which had been the Dennis Mendelson copy (lot 144 of George Frederick Kolbe's Sale 52, October 17, 1992). Alas, the initials on the cover still look very much like RHD, although the H was somewhat equivocal. And even if it did say RHD, there was still the chance of clerical error. RCD remained a possibility.

It was then that brother Mason's plate came once more to mind. Since Kline was depicted on it, might Davis — or Davids — be pictured as well? Interestingly, portrait number four on Mason's photographic gallery is that of Robert Coulton Davis, looking to the viewer's left, with a visage that is somewhat evocative of the one and only president of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis. No photograph of R. H. Davids, unfortunately, is to be found among the 48 personages on the plate.

Since Mason's plate did not deliver the definitive evidence, the next step was his house organ, *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine*, whence came the original of the aforementioned photographic gallery plate. Here, in Volume One, Number One (April 1867), was quickly found an interesting tidbit. Mason penned a short article entitled Public Sale of Coins, Medals, &c. in which he promised to review future coin sales. The last paragraph of this article is of interest: "By the way, can any of our friends or readers inform us of the correct date when the first public sale of coins (as a collection) took place? Mr. A. C. Kline, of Philadelphia, is believed to be the first collector who sold, by public auction, a good assortment of the coins of America."

With Emmanuel Attinelli's *Numisgraphics* still nine years in the future, Mason was doing some pioneering work here. One might quibble with his characterization of the Kline sale as the first in America to offer a good assortment of American coins — the February 20, 1851, M. Thomas & Sons sale of the Dr. Lewis Roper collection had a good (653 lots), if not systematic assortment — but Mason was substantially correct in his assessment of the importance of the Kline sale. And there was more information to come from this source. In Volume One, Number Three (June 1867), Mason answered the question posed by Charlie Davis, and in the process preserved a good deal of data about the early state of the hobby, especially in the Quaker City.



In that issue, under the heading of *The Coin Trade*, Mason reacts to a pair of articles that sought to trace the origin and progress of American numismatics. One writer is identified only by the initials ABS, but the context quickly reveals him to be Augustus B. Sage, an early New York dealer (see this column in the Winter 1992 issue of *The Asylum*). The other writer is Edward Cogan, the father of the coin trade in America. Mason felt that both of these gentlemen took too much credit for launching the boom that the hobby experienced from 1857 until the start of the Civil War (and not coincidentally, brother Ebenezer felt that his own contributions had been slighted). Mason then turned his attention to a few of the *Coin Collectors* of the times that we read of, which by some inadvertence have escaped the recollections of ABS and Mr. Cogan.

It seemed that brother Ebenezer's egalitarian sympathies were aroused by the fact that both Sage and Cogan paid much attention, in their articles, to well-heeled numismatists. No doubt, said Mason, "the class of collectors known to be wealthy and persevering in their search for coins, deserve a proper tribute for their industry and energy, but why omit the poorer class?"

He went on to list these shallow-pocketed but deserving coin hounds. "How many of our wealthy collectors are indebted to Faaet, Levick, Kline, Idler, Mason, Davids, Kolloch, Carpenter, Wallace, Hodges, Cauffman, Granberry, Zehnder, Humphreys, Harvey, Breichman, Hildeburn, Warner, Nevil, Few Smith (*sic*), and Hill for their valuable and finest specimens?"

Some of these names are instantly recognizable: J. N. T. Levick, token collector extraordinaire; our friend A. C. Kline; prominent early dealers William Idler and Ebenezer Locke Mason, Jr.; John S. Warner, a less-prominent Philadelphia coin merchant of the 1860s; and William Fewsmith, whose substantial collection Mason was to sell in 1870. The rest have slipped into obscurity, however undeserved. According to Mason, Faaet had a splendid collection, and Granberry's collection of cents was the finest in this country. All-in-all, this list is a virtual who's who among the second rank of Philadelphia numismatists just before and after the Civil War.

Mason's list allows us to settle the RHD-RCD question in favor of R. H. Davids. Moreover, two recent sales of numismatic literature allow us to fill in a few of the blanks in the life of R. H. Davids. In George Frederick Kolbe's Mail Bid Sale 62 (June 10, 1995), lot 1466 was a copy of the M. Thomas & Sons sale of the Dr. Lewis Roper Collection on February 20, 1851. As previously mentioned, this sale contained 653 numismatic lots, making it probably the largest coin auction held in the U.S. up to that time. Indeed, Attinelli noted, "This is, it is believed, the first coin sale in this country in which sufficient interest was manifested by numismatists to take note of the prices paid for coins and who were the purchasers." One of the purchasers of multiple lots was "Davids," and this copy was initialed, at the head of the title, as transcribed by Kolbe: "R. H. (?) D." This makes it clear that R. H. Davids

was an active numismatist from at least the 1851 Roper sale through the 1855 Kline sale.

The second sale proved more fruitful yet. In the Money Tree's 22nd Mail Bid Sale (February 18, 1995), lot 243 was a copy of the *Proceedings of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia* from May 4, 1865, to December 31, 1866. The cataloguers quote a description written by George Frederick Kolbe for this identical piece in his 1993 First ANA Numismatic Literature Sale (July 30, 1993): "Appended are biographical sketches of deceased members James Hall, Mark Wilks Collett, Richard Davids, and Frederick Vaux."

This gives us a first name for Mr. Davids and an approximate time of his death. Both of these bare facts can be enhanced thanks to the generosity of Ken Lowe, who shared a photocopy of the obituary from the *Proceedings*. Interestingly, the obit gives his name as Richard Wistar Davids. Since the middle initials on Davids' copies of both the Roper and Kline sales are difficult to read, they could be W's instead of H's. This is confirmed, as Charlie Davis points out, by the fact that Richard W. Davids was the editor of the *Catalogue of the Coins and Medals, Ancient and Modern, New York State Library* (Davis No. 297, Attinelli, p. 82). This is a carefully cataloged history of 1,118 mostly Greek and Roman coins published in 1853.

So Richard Wistar Davids it was. Unfortunately, RWD was not destined to collect coins into a ripe old age. The obituary in the *Proceedings* tells us that he was born in New York on August 30, 1826, and killed in the battle of Gettysburg on July 2, 1863. What became of the coins that Davids purchased in the Roper and Kline sales is unknown, for Gengerke does not list Davids as a consignor to any U.S. coin auction sale. Still several weeks shy of his 37th birthday, when killed, Davids might well have added much knowledge to the young science of numismatics. Instead, he gave his life for his country, bringing to mind John Greenleaf Whittier's famous couplet: "For of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: It might have been."

This small investigation has led us to at least sketchy biographical details of Richard Wistar Davids' life. And we now have a face to go with the name of A. C. Kline. The trail of Davids obviously ends at Gettysburg. A. C. Kline, however, had many years ahead of him as of 1867. Martin Gengerke's *American Numismatic Auctions* enumerates three sales to which Kline was a consignor. Besides the 1855 M. Thomas & Sons sale, there was the April 16, 1866, Thomas Birch & Son auction and the June 21, 1892, S. H. & H. Chapman sale.

This is the current sum of your columnist's accreted knowledge on this subject. But who knows — sometime when looking up something else — but that more will accrete on this very subject. Such are the joys of numismatic bibliomania.



Dr. Heath and *The Detroit Philatelist*

Pete Smith

Sometimes philatelic literature crosses over into topics of numismatic interest. Early issues of *The Detroit Philatelist*, for example, are related to the early days of *The Numismatist*.

The first issue of the monthly journal, *The Detroit Philatelist*, was issued in April of 1892, although internally it is misdated 1882. The editor and publisher was Alfred H. Chittenden of 169 Twelfth Street in Detroit. The lead article on page 1 is "Philatelic Ethics" by Dr. George F. Heath, the first publisher of *The Numismatist* and founder of the American Numismatic Association.

Chittenden was president of the Detroit Philatelic Society. He reported that 1200 copies of the first issue of *The Detroit Philatelist* were printed and 1000 distributed. This compares with about 100 copies Heath printed for the first issue of *The Numismatist*.

Heath observed that stamp collecting was a hobby usually taken up as children and, "That the great majority of stamp collectors up to 1865, the world over, were under fifteen years of age." Collections formed as youths were usually set aside and forgotten only to be taken up later by adults. Heath's article was a warm endorsement for the hobby but had little depth. It had little to do with ethics beyond Heath's belief that the hobby was a good influence. "Very few bad boys ever collected postage stamps any length of time, and I might add very few stamp collecting youths turn out absolutely bad. Now these assertions are made after an association of over twenty-five years with this class, and so it is here asserted that philately is a moral power, an ethical force, and youths should be encouraged in it by their friends who have their best interest at heart."

Earlier in 1891 Heath said in *The Numismatist*, "Philately is pre-eminently the study of youth. Numismatics was pre-eminently the study of manhood. One teaches of things of the present time; the other tells us of the present, and also goes back into the dim recesses of history over 2,500 years." In *The Numismatist* he came out strongly in favor of numismatics over philately. He did not make a similar comparison in *The Detroit Philatelist*.

Heath's involvement with the formation of the American Numismatic Association (A.N.A.) in 1891 has been extensively reported in *The Numismatist*. His concurrent involvement with organization of the Michigan Philatelic Association (M.P.A.) and his service as president has not been recognized. It is obvious that he had an interest and commitment to the promotion of both hobbies.

The M.P.A. was organized at Detroit December 3, 1891, with Dr. George Heath elected president for the following year. Heath was elected president

of the A.N.A. in October 1892 and was re-elected to a second term in both organizations.

There are several parallels between the A.N.A. and the M.P.A. In April 1892, *The Detroit Philatelist* was designated as the official organ of the Michigan Philatelic Association. Heath's publication, *The Numismatist*, was not made the official publication of the A.N.A. until July 1892. Both reported on club activities, listed new members and carried reports of elections and officers.

The June 1893 (Vol. II, No. 3) issue of *The Detroit Philatelist* included a full page ad for the Columbian Stamp Co. of 61 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, with W. T. Fratcher listed as manager. In about 1888, Heath traded a dealer lot of stamps to William Fratcher for a used printing press, lead type and \$25. When Heath had difficulty with the press, Fratcher rode his bicycle 40 miles to Monroe to show Heath how to operate the press. This press was used to print early issues of *The Numismatist* and was eventually donated to the A.N.A. by Donald Heath, son of the founder.

In addition to the typical club officers, both organizations also had exchange superintendents to encourage trades among members. George W. Rode served as superintendent of exchange for the A.N.A. in 1891. The Michigan Philatelic Association had Henry McConnell as exchange superintendent in 1892. The A.N.A. position was soon dropped for lack of interest.

It would appear that philatelic literature was appreciated by stamp collectors before there was a comparable appreciation of numismatic literature by coin collectors. The lead article in the September 1892 issue was "Philatelic Literature" by P. Rue. He estimated there were between thirty and forty philatelic periodicals available in 1892. "You will find complete files of the leading papers, will prove a good investment, as back numbers will bring much more than they cost you in subscriptions." His comments about the investment potential of literature should be interpreted as a casual comment and not part of an organized promotion of literature as an investment.

The March 1894 issue included "Importance of Philatelic Literature" by R. G. Badger who reported that "Very little philatelic literature of any importance, was published before 1880; and since then, with magazines, books, catalogues, etc.; the publications will number among the hundreds, perhaps the thousands."

After the passage of a century, the sale of numismatic literature has become a business for several part and full-time dealers in this country. There is a much smaller commercial interest, however, in philatelic literature. Items of philatelic literature also have a lower current value than numismatic items of comparable rarity.



The January 1894 issue had this brief comment, "Dr. Geo. F. Heath of Monroe, Mich., was a caller at our office a few days ago. He has not been able to devote much time to stamps of late." Perhaps numismatics had become more important. It should also be noted that Dr. Heath served several terms as mayor of Monroe so there were other demands on his time beyond his profession, his family and his hobbies.

Publication of *The Detroit Philatelist* ceased without explanation after the twenty-fifth issue. A complete run of the periodical was offered as lot 504 in Remy Bourne's literature sale of January 27, 1996. They sold on a mail bid of \$90 plus 10%.

## Who Was Mrs. Marshall?

David Hirt

Some time ago, while looking through some Edward Cogan catalogs in my library, I came across a priced and named catalogue of the May 1865 J. N. T. Levick sale, held in New York City by Bangs, Merwin & Company. Many of the buyers were the well-known collectors of the day: Anthon, Groh, Cogan, Appleton Jenks, and so on. One unknown buyer's name caught my eye: several lots were sold to a "Mrs. Marshall." For a woman to be present in the Bangs auction room in the 1860's was, I am sure, quite unusual. I remember thinking at that time, could she have been the first American female coin collector?

More recently, while looking at a copy of Woodward's 96th sale, I came across the following listing in the numismatic literature section of the catalog of lot 1940: "MARSHALL, Mrs., Catalogue of Rare Coins, Hobart, New York." The lot realized 1¢. I thought, oh my goodness, this woman was not only a collector, she was a dealer! At this point, I looked in Attinelli to see if this publication was included. Sure enough, under the year 1864 in Part II, Catalogues and Price-Lists, is listed "'Catalogue of Coins of Mrs. Marshall, N. Y. For sale at.....' (9 pp. 8vo.)."

In the Champa sale Part IV, a copy of the Marshall catalogue was listed and I put in a bid, never thinking I would get it. I was very pleasantly surprised when notified that my bid had been successful. After examining the catalog I would agree with the Champa lot description that it seems to be a prospectus to sell a collection since no prices are listed. In any case, it is a very interesting piece of numismatic literature from the early days of American coin collecting. It would be interesting to hear if anyone in NBS has this publication or, better yet, knows anything of this pioneer lady numismatist.

## ¡Show and Tell! Wayne K. Homren

This occasional column provides a forum for NBS members to share their latest finds with their fellow numismatic bibliophiles. Readers are invited to send contributions for future issues. Only a few sentences are required, so it won't take much of your time. Just jot down your ideas and mail them to me at 1810 Antietam Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (or email to [homren@cgi.com](mailto:homren@cgi.com)). I'll handle the rest.

This installment discusses some important United States Government publications relating to numismatics. Our first item was contributed by member Norman J. Cochrane.

### DOUBLE CLAIN-STEFANELLI INSCRIPTION

I have tried to accumulate items authored or cataloged by the Clain-Stefanellis. The first was Elvira Eliza Clain-Stefanelli's *Numismatics - An Ancient Science*, published in 1965. It is "Paper 32" (I would call it a book - 102 pages with card covers) in the Smithsonian Institution series of *Contributions from the Museum of History and Technology*. Because it was and is a favorite, I had a copy bound and asked Mrs. Clain-Stefanelli to autograph it at an Oklahoma City Coin Club seminar in June 1967. She said, "I've never seen it so beautiful." Recently I obtained "Papers 31-33 on Numismatics," issued hardbound in a single volume as "Bulletin 229" by the Smithsonian Institution in 1970. Included are Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli's *History of the National Numismatic Collections*, Elvira's previously mentioned work, and her *Italian Coin Engravers Since 1800*.

The most unusual item in my collection, and the reason for this note, is another copy of Paper 32 obtained from the Katen library, with two inscriptions: "To Mrs. Rechenbach with my compliments, Elvira Clain-Stefanelli" and "To Frank Katen with my best wishes, Elvira Clain Stefanelli 6/12/1986." (Author's note: as shown, Mrs. Clain-Stefanelli did not hyphenate her last name in the Katen inscription).

NORMAN J. COCHRANE

### THE EAGLE AND THE SHIELD

Another government publication of note is *The Eagle and the Shield - A History of the Great Seal of the United States*, a 1978 book by Richard S. Patterson and Richardson Dougall. I hadn't known of this work until I bought a copy from a used book dealer in July 1996. Published by the "Office of the Historian, Bureau of Public Affairs, Department of State, under the auspices of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration," this massive 637



page volume details the history of the Great Seal over two centuries from its initial conception in 1776.

There are numerous numismatic connections that make this book a must for the serious researcher. Readers of Joel Orosz' book, *The Eagle That Is Forgotten* are already familiar with the seal's primary designer, Pierre Eugène Du Simitière, an early coin collector. There are sections on the seal's use on Diplomatic and Indian Peace medals, and on the Dollar Bill. One chapter tells the story of the two mottoes of the U. S., "E Pluribus Unum" and "In God We Trust."

A chapter on the die of 1782 includes a 9 page biography of mint engraver Robert Scot; the authors conclude that Scot is the most likely engraver of the die. Another numismatic connection is a section on Boston collector "William S. Appleton's Advice" relating to the Tiffany die of 1884. The book ends with a mother lode of bibliographic information on the history of the seal. Some of you may have already be aware of this book, but finding it was a real eye-opener for me. What a delight! But good luck finding one - I called our local Government Printing Office Bookstore and was told the book went out of print in 1992.

## ILLEGAL TENDER

*Illegal Tender - Counterfeiting and the Secret Service in Nineteenth-Century America*, by David Johnson (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1995) is a scholarly look at this fascinating intersection of numismatics, thievery, and G-men. The author begins with an investigation of "The Social World of Counterfeiting," a look at the shadowy world of professional and part-time printers, coiners, and shovers of the past century. The slums and tenements of large cities like New York were fertile grounds for criminal activity, often breeding "superstar" professionals like Bill Brockaway, Harry Cole, Joshua Minor, and others.

There is one interesting tidbit in the author's note that "It is probably no accident that...New York was not only the center of printing in the United States but also the heart of counterfeiting. Counterfeiters could...find among the nearly ten thousand employees of all these printing businesses a few skilled engravers willing to sell their talents... William L. Ormsby, an engraver at the National Bank Note Company, had cut plates for fourteen different banks (twenty- two different notes) for Joshua Minor by 1866" (p43-44).

This is NOT the W. L. Ormsby who wrote the famous 1852 book *Bank Note Engraving* (Waterman Lily Ormsby 1809-1883), but could turn out to be a black sheep of the family. Does anyone know of a genealogy of the Ormsby family? [For more information on Ormsby, see *The Essay-Proof Journal*, Vol 14, No, 1 (Whole Number 53), January 1957, for an article on Ormsby by James Blanchard].

## Browsing Through the Stack's Stacks by George F. Kolbe

On the morning of May 10th of this year, I found myself pacing back and forth on West 57th Street in New York City, impatiently waiting for the doors of the oldest major coin firm in America to open. I have been buying and selling rare and out of print numismatic books for nearly thirty years now, yet it was with great anticipation that I recently traveled from California to view the numismatic library built by the Stack's firm over the last six decades. Through the years, the library has often been used as a backdrop in the firm's illustrated brochures and individual key works were occasionally mentioned but the overall content has remained unknown to the majority of American numismatists and bibliophiles.

Great old-time American coin collections continue to be dispersed and so it is with American numismatic libraries. Stack's library, however, remains intact and in a very real sense is a living organism. It is a working library covering virtually all aspects of numismatics; as such, it is without equal in the United States. Widely dispersed over two floors, there are few spaces where one is more than a step or two away from a numismatic reference work. Many of America's finest professional numismatists spend time at Stack's and each has a specialized numismatic library within arm's length. Included among this Who's Who of American numismatists are David Alexander, Robert Archer, Mitch Batiano, Jan Blamberg, John Burnham, Robert Entlich, Martin Gengerke, Michael Hodder, Thomas Panicella, Scott Mitchell, Harvey Stack, Lawrence Stack and Thomas Tesoriero. The references used every day surround them. These are the workhorse books; many of them are also present in the libraries of specialized collectors and serious dealers. They provide 90% of the information and occupy 10% of the space. They are the heart of the library.

Its soul lies elsewhere. On the main floor, Harvey Stack's capacious office is filled to overflowing with rare American numismatic reference works. On the second floor, the entire back wall, a corner room, and various nooks and crannies elsewhere are jammed with classic reference works on ancient, medieval and modern numismatics. Mostly, these are the books used once a week, once a month, once a year. They are the key to the greatness of this library, containing information not to be found in the everyday books and perhaps not anywhere else. Most firms try to get along without them. Stack's does not. Assembling a storehouse of specialized information such as this requires dedication, decades and, nowadays, quite a few dollars. These books and the talented group of people who use them are responsible in good measure for this firm's unparalleled success in the rare coin business. The library is also made available to Stack's clients and rarely does an inquiry, however arcane, go unanswered.



A week would not have been sufficient to appreciate the content of this outstanding library and, in the two days allotted, it was barely possible to scratch the surface. Not only does the library contain great numismatic books, often they belonged to and/or record the collections of great numismatists. Present in the library, for example, are many classic large cent works from the library of Henry Hines. They are often filled with letters and research notes of "The Big Three of the Big Cents:" George H. Clapp, Howard Newcomb and Hines himself. Many of these unpublished letters and research papers are doubtless of greater value than the rare volumes in which they reside. A photographic record of the fabled collection of \$2.50, \$5.00 and \$10.00 United States gold coins from the collection of Colonel E. H. R. Green is housed in three handsome leather-bound volumes. Both early and more recent inventories of the incomparable Louis Eliasberg collection are present as well. The aphorism that books are portable time machines is more than amply demonstrated by the Stack's library.

How to summarize the content and significance of the library is a daunting task. The following brief list of highlights will allow the reader to draw his or her own conclusions. Even here, justice is not done. There was too much to see, too little time to see it, and my attention was largely drawn to the mega-rarities. There are hundreds of works in the library with relatively little monetary value that are rarely offered for sale and which would attract considerable interest if they were to come to market.

Browsing through the stacks, a four volume set of Bangs & Co. sales, 1855 to 1887, was encountered early on. Coin auction sales became popular in the United States in the mid-1860's and included in these four volumes are a number of earlier sales rarely if ever encountered. In 19th century America, coin dealers did not conduct auctions on their own. An auction house (Bangs in New York City was by far the firm most often employed) routinely conducted the sale itself and invoiced floor buyers. This remained the custom in London until recent years (Sotheby's and Glendining being the preferred auction houses) and coin sales are still routinely conducted in France in the Hotel Drouot, the huge multi-level auction compound in the heart of Paris.

Next, a 13 volume set of small-format Chapman sales, including a number with original photographic plates, was observed. The catalogues issued by Henry and Samuel Hudson Chapman, as partners and later on as individuals, are the aristocrats of American coin auction sale catalogues. From their first sale in 1879 until the mid-1920's, the brothers dominated commercial American numismatics. Their auction catalogues were handsomely printed and often were accompanied by actual photographs depicting the rarest coins. The most important sales were issued in large quarto format, 9 x 12 1/2 inches, and all 22 of these handsome catalogues were

issued with photographic plates. Two dozen or so of the small-format sales, 6 x 9 inches or so, were also issued with photographic plates. Often these were specialized collections and far fewer illustrated catalogues were distributed. Several of the ones in Stack's library have come to market only once or twice in the last twenty-five years.

A seven volume set of Cogan sales, 1858-1885, including several extremely rare early sales is another highlight of the library. Edward Cogan has often been called "the father of the coin trade in America." He began dealing in coins in 1855 in Philadelphia and conducted his first auction in 1859. Cogan's first four sales were conducted at his store with only a handwritten manuscript of the catalogue available for reference. Eventually, reprints were issued for the four sales, but only 25 copies were made of three of them. Cogan also issued the first auction sale catalogue in the United States containing photographic illustrations of the coins to be sold: the famous Mortimer MacKenzie sale, held on June 23rd, 1869.

A complete set of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, 1866-1924, is one of the key American numismatic references held by Stack's. Many of America's greatest contributions to numismatic scholarship first appeared in the pages of this most important publication. Crosby's classic works on large cents, parts of his *Early Coins of America*, Frey's *Dictionary of Numismatic Names*, Edgar Adams' extensive work on California pioneer gold coins and, later on, the scholarly, still indispensable studies on ancient Greek coins by Newell, Baldwin Brett and others are a small sampling. For American researchers, the Journal is most interesting for the reminiscences and other fascinating tidbits of information to be found in the earlier volumes, much of which is little known today.

A photographic record of the Colonel E. H. R. Green collection of U. S. Gold \$2.50, \$5.00 & \$10.00, one of only two sets prepared, is among the most important holdings of the library. Colonel Green, son of Hetty Green, the so-called "Witch of Wall Street," spent millions of dollars in the 1920's and 1930's on his coin, stamp and precious gem collections. His collection of United States gold coins by variety remains one of the finest ever formed, making this photographic record all the more important. Incidentally, the other set of Green photographs resides with the Stack's family.

The firm's own hardbound set of Stack's and Coin Galleries' auction sale catalogues, complete from 1935 to date, comprises an unparalleled data base on rare American coins, medals, tokens and paper money. Over the past six decades, more rare coins have been auctioned by Stack's than any rare coin firm in the entire history of American numismatics. Only a half dozen or so complete sets have ever been put together by numismatic bibliophiles.



Hardbound editions of numerous individual Stack's sales, including many deluxe leather-bound editions are scattered throughout the library, and several are the only copies known. One of the highlights is Copy No. 1 of Stack's 1940 A. C. Gies sale, bound in white full leather.

A bound set of *The Numismatist*, from 1888 to date, including originals of the first six volumes is a grand highlight of the library. For years only six or so complete runs of the first six volumes were known and these early issues, hand-printed by Dr. George Heath, have always occupied a special place in the hearts of American numismatic bibliophiles. Several years ago a complete set, finely bound in half leather, brought \$33,000.00 at auction, by far the most ever paid for an American numismatic periodical.

Walter Garrabrant's unique photographic record of Hard Times tokens was found, inconspicuously, between two other period works on tokens. It may well contain information available nowhere else and is a token researcher's dream.

Large cent works include the deluxe leather-bound edition of Newcomb's 1925 work on 1801, 02 & 03 large cents belonging to Henry Hines, including correspondence, etc. Its significance is hard to overestimate. Hines was one of the greatest large cent collectors of all time and he maintained an active correspondence with the other large cent greats of the day. His contributions to all of the key large cent books issued from the 1920's to the 1940's were indispensable. The same comments apply to Hines' copy of Howard Newcomb's work on 1798-99 cents, found a bit farther on in the large cent section of the library.

Norman Stack's copy of the 1916 Gilbert half cent work, including an extremely rare set of Brobston half cent photographs, is enough to excite the most jaded half cent collector. Only a few sets of the Brobston photographs are known and they are far superior to the halftone illustrations of the coins found in the fixed price catalogue of this most important collection, issued by Stack's in 1963.

The fabled Stack's Showers half cent catalogue, No. 7 of only 12 copies issued, resides nearby. The copy of this rare volume sold in the 1994 Armand Champa sale conducted by Bowers & Merena brought \$4,180.00, even though it had been rebound.

Over two dozen large and small-format Chapman sales with photographic plates, including many of the great rarities, are to be found in a special section of the library. Included here are delectable illustrated catalogues of the all-time great collections of American coins formed by the likes of Charles Bushnell, Matthew Adams Stickney, George Earle, John Mills, John Story Jenks and other late 19th and early 20th century famous American coin collectors.

An 1886 Dr. Maris sale catalogue with the extremely rare photographic plates was another real find. With original plates the Maris sale is one of the most desired American auction sales. Although it is stated in the catalogue that fifty plated examples were to be issued, it would appear that only a handful of copies were actually distributed. The current whereabouts of only four copies with plates were known until the discovery of the fifth one in Stack's library. In the preface to the sale, cataloguer H. P. Smith described the collection thus: "In offering the American, Colonial, and Pattern Departments of the Cabinet of Dr. Maris at public auction, I would direct attention to the fact that there is scarcely an undesirable piece in the Catalogue. A number of the coins are believed to be unique; very many are of great rarity; and all, with few exceptions, are in unusually fine condition...I think it may safely be said, without fear of contradiction, that never before has there been a one day's sale that contained so many rare and valuable American coins." The first plate mostly depicts rare United States silver coins; the second and third plates illustrate rare United States patterns, plate four depicts large cents for the most part, and the last two plates depict the highlights of the famous Maris collection of New Jersey coins which was sold as a single lot at the sale and remained intact until it was dispersed at the Garrett sale a century later.

Unique bid books of a dozen Lyman Low auction sales in Stack's library provide an unparalleled insight into the way this talented and prolific coin dealer operated his business. From 1882 to 1924 Low conducted 212 auction sales. If other Lyman Low bid books have survived we have not heard of them. John Adams, in *American Numismatic Literature Volume I*, summarizes Low's many works on numismatics and concludes that "Despite such prodigious output, Low's best performances, in our opinion, may be found in his auction catalogs. These are characterized by painstaking descriptions, exceptionally conservative grading and a wealth of background commentary."

Levick's own annotated copy of the April 27-29, 1865 sale of his coin collection is yet another highlight of the library. It is one of only 12 issued on large paper, with the original sale date noted above. This famous sale was postponed, as E. J. Attinelli wrote in his classic 1876 work on early coin auction sales, "in consequence of the excited state of the entire people, consequent upon the assassination of President Lincoln by Junius B. Booth, who had escaped, but was subsequently captured mortally wounded...Mr. Levick, in consequence of the state of affairs, issued but few copies with the cover bearing the preceding date, the greater portion of the edition was stripped of its covers and replaced with a new one, bearing the following date (May 28, 1865), when the sale took place."



A complete set of Edouard Frossard's *Numisma*, issued from 1877 to 1891, also graces the Stack's library. The only complete set to come to market in over a decade was sold in the 1994 Armand Champa library sale. Estimated at \$2,500.00, it opened at \$2,250.00, and after stiff floor competition, finally sold to a mail bidder for \$4,620.00. One of the top American coin dealers of the 19th century, Frossard was well known for his acerbic pen. When we sold Ted Craige's set of *Numisma* in 1981 (the same set sold in 1994 though subsequently bound by Champa), we recorded three examples of his biting commentary: 1) "Having consulted a celebrated astrologer, we can confidently announce the impending discovery of a Confederate States Dollar. This will complete the series (unless the gold coinage should be taken in hand by some enterprising firm) as the following are already known: The cents, half dimes, quarters and half dollars. What Next?" 2) "Dealers sending coins on approval to Mr. Jonas Adler, Pittsburgh, Pa., will do well, if they wish to assure a safe delivery, to address the distinguished coin dealer in care of one of the Town Justices, or of the Sheriff of the County." 3) "We have a list of about 15 petty coin swindlers, for the greater part located in small western towns. From a P.O. Box as a centre, they spread their nets to catch such game as may come within their reach. As no reputable dealer will trust them for over 25 cents of coins at a time, the forming of a cabinet is slow work with them. Hard work in the corn field would pay better in the long run."

A large paper copy of Hickcox's 1858 *Historical Account of American Coinage*, the first major work on American coins and one of only 5 copies issued in this format, was another real find. William S. Frederick Mayers, in the earliest American numismatic bibliography - a paper read before the American Numismatic Society on November 19, 1858 and reprinted the following year in *Norton's Literary Letter* - wrote "The progress of numismatic investigation and record in the United States has of late been truly remarkable...Not until 1858, however, did a work appear devoted exclusively to American coins. The 'Historical Account of American Coinage,' by John H. Hickcox, was published at Albany, N. Y., in August last."

On the second floor, where "Coin Galleries" is located, is a comprehensive library on ancient numismatic works. It features original editions of standard works such as the Danish and other *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum* series; the 29 volume set of *Greek Coins in the British Museum*; Rizzo on Sicilian coins; the Svoronos works on Athenian and Ptolemaic coins; Mazzini, BMC, RIC and Hunter catalogues of Roman Imperial coins; Haeberlin on Aes Grave; Gnechi on Roman medallions; Grose, Jameson and McDonald on Greek coins; Robinson & Clement's *Chalcidic Mint*; Boehringer on Syracuse, key ancient coin auction sales including Jacob Hirsch and Ars Classica, Montagu and Ponton d'Amécourt, etc.; the 1897-1898 Waddington *Inventaire* by Babelon; etc.

Sets of classic works on Germanic coins including Hoffmeister on Hesse, Dannenberg on Saxony, Bahrfeldt on Marienburg, Fiala on Brunswick, etc. are found along the back wall of the second floor. Also found there is a complete set of Georgii Mikhailovich's monumental work on Russian coins, including part 2 of Peter the Great, bound in 13 volumes. This is the most important work on Russian coins ever written and complete sets are extremely rare. The same comments apply to the complete twenty volume set of King Victor Emmanuel's *Corpus Nummorum Italicorum* in the library (volume 20 is the reprint).

I could go on and on.

But there are far more than numismatic books at Stack's. It is a beehive of activity. Harvey, Larry and Susan Stack are intimately involved in the day-to-day activities of the firm. The security guards guard, the retail staff retails, the accounting staff accounts, the cataloguers catalogue, the computers compute. Considering its prime Manhattan location, the firm's headquarters are quite large. Nonetheless, there are so many people there doing so many different things, at times the atmosphere is one of barely restrained bedlam, as least from the viewpoint of a "laid back" Southern Californian. Were it not for Harvey Stack's consummate direction of activities, instant anarchy would appear to be likely. Just the opposite occurs. Nearly an auction sale catalogue a month is issued, a vigorous over-the-counter trade is maintained, representatives are present at major coin conventions all over the United States, the needs of an extensive and often exclusive clientele are well taken care of, fixed price catalogues are issued, etc., etc.

And the library continues to grow...

### Young Numismatist Writing Contest

Ralph Harding of McPherson, Kansas has donated a copy of B. Max Mehl's *The Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia and Premium Catalog* to NBS for the purpose of awarding it to the young numismatist who writes the best article to appear in *The Asylum*. The winner will be announced at the 1997 NBS annual meeting in New York City. Accordingly, the article must appear in the one of the next two issues. Good luck and, please, when submitting your article, please state your age. I look forward to reading some interesting material from the next generation of numismatists!

P. SCOTT RUBIN



## Complete Sets of *The Numismatist*: 1970 Pedigree Data

Reproduced below is the text of an April 26, 1970 letter from Jack W. Ogilvie, American Numismatic Association Historian, to "Charlie" (ANA stalwart and noted numismatic bibliophile Charles M. Johnson). It contains detailed pedigrees on complete sets of *The Numismatist* then known and, it is hoped, will stimulate those presently doing research to publish a current census in a future issue of *The Asylum*.

Never got a chance to thank you for sending me that information about the 1947 Neil sale with the complete set of NUMISMATISTS. So -- thanks a million!

You are right, this set was bought by Steve Bibler, who had them bound and about two years or more ago sold them to Byron Johnson, who still owns them, altho (*sic*) he does not wish the fact known to too many people.

Do you have all of the Mehl Catalogs? He sold Philpott's complete set in 1946 but I do not know what sale. He admits the one above was the THIRD set he had sold -- the Philpott set was the second -- wonder what the first one was? You might check thru (*sic*).

Here is my last rundown (CONFIDENTIAL at Present)

1. A.N.S. Library
2. (now unknown) Lou Werner sold it to ?? -- Zerbe, Zabriski copy
3. Harry Bass Jr. -- Jack Koch, Paul Fouts, Mehl, 1946 Sale - assembled by Philpott from start.
4. Byron Johnson -- Steve Bibler - Mehl, Neil Sale, 1947 (you have the owners - Tremblay, etc.)
5. Sol Kaplan -- Abe Kosoff, Julius Gutttag. 1888-93 only. Balance of the Gutttag set scattered.
6. John Pittman -- Early volumes from John F. Jones. Others scattered. (Pittman's loose set is incomplete.)
7. (Unknown) Assembled by B. Max Mehl, and sold later (You thot (*sic*) that Abe Kosoff sold this set -- he didn't according to what he told me.
8. (Unknown) A.N.A. Library since 1924 - This copy disappeared in the mails in 1964 while being shipped to me.
9. (Unknown) Fred Kolby (*sic*) -- (unknown) Sold by Kolby (*sic*) last spring. If this is not the Zerbe Zabriskie copy, it almost has to be the missing library copy, or part of the Mehl set.

Dr. Judd donated a set to the ANA but the 1888 to 93 has most of the early issues missing. There are numerous sets from 1894 to date including your set which I think you bought from Edgar Levy.

## Book Review

Robinson, Brian. *Pennies and Linen Towels: The Story of the Royal Maundy*. London: Spink & Son, Ltd., 1992.

Robinson's book *Pennies and Linen Towels: The Story of the Royal Maundy* is a comprehensive review, containing 101 pages of text, a 29 page appendix, five pages of bibliography, and 35 pages of illustrations, with 118 plates.

The author takes the reader back in time to the early customs of the Royal Maundy and to what role money, particularly small denomination coins, played in history. At one time, the monarch would, as part of a ritual, wash the feet of the poor, the number being determined by his or her age. This practice had stopped, but gifts of clothing and food, as well as money, were continued.

It seems that in the early period, only pennies were given out. Later, coins of higher denomination were given out, such as the two and three and four penny pieces, which were mainly coined for distribution to the poor. These coins were to have the same weight as regular coinage and were to be considered legal tender.

It is also shown how many of these coins are proofs or proof-like in appearance, having a frosty appearance and, in many cases, appearing to be indistinguishable from regular proofs. However, the author explains techniques that differentiate the strikings; by careful observation of the rims of the coins, Maundy coins can be distinguished from the proofs.

Robinson includes many tables throughout the text which show mintage figures for the various reigns of England's monarchs. Other tables show the weight and denomination for various periods of time.

This book covers a period in English minting that is not covered or barely covered in the classic works by Snelling (1762) or Ruding (1817-1840) or even in the more contemporary works done by Cooper and Challis. Although this book may cover more than the general collector of everyday British coinage would ever want to know, Robinson's scholarship and close attention to detail in the bibliographic references, appendices, tables and text of this book amply fill a gap in history left out by most other authors writing about the English mint.

FRANK VAN ZANDT



## Book Review

New Netherlands Coin Co., John J. Ford, Jr., Editor. *Numisma: 1954-1960*. Wenham, MA: Reissue, partly in reprint, by Charles Davis, 1996.

Herb Bardes, the New York Time's Sunday coin columnist in the 1960's, introduced me to the New Netherlands Coin Company. I had just moved east from Wisconsin. His announcement, in May, 1967, of the firm's upcoming 59th sale in New York attracted my attention. The sale content was strong in U. S. colonials, a field of growing fascination for me. Bardes' column illustrated a sou marque of New France, an affordable colonial I had not previously known about.

So I sent for the catalog, written by John Ford and Jon Hanson, which Bardes had praised as a "reference book" that actually outshone the choice material in the sale. It did provide the depth of historical background information Bardes promised, as well as thorough descriptions of pedigree and condition, occasionally running to a half-page of text per lot. Now that I was aware of what sous marques were and when and where they circulated, acquiring one at the sale would be a priority.

The 59th was a sale well worth attending, and yes, I did get my sou marque and some other neat stuff. Many notable collectors were present. We were treated with no-nonsense fairness. The lots invariably lived up to their descriptions. New Netherlands and its principals had gained my immediate respect. Today the catalog of this sale remains a treasured reference.

The heyday of NN's periodical, *Numisma*, was a decade earlier. I did not learn of it until after NN ceased business in the late 1970's. Hanson retained NN's stock of publications, which he made available to NBS members through advertisements in this journal. The inventory included not only most of the Ford era catalogs, but also nearly complete runs of *Numisma*. A \$25 check to Hanson brought you, by return mail, 20 different issues of this pocket-sized house organ.

*Numisma* started out in mid-1954 as a fixed price list, but from the outset Ford made it into an informal two-way communication vehicle for readers. A few pages per issue were set aside as a question forum. Then, collectors of U. S. material were developing interest in die varieties, rarity estimates and historical information. Through the forum, Ford fielded a steady stream of inquiries on these and similar topics. "Just what are Black Doggs?"

was a typical one. Ford ventured the opinion that this 1720's term referred to the pewter  $1/24^{\text{th}}$  real tokens of 1688, citing three supporting references. The readers submitting the questions were identified only by their initials and towns, but this is enough to reveal some of *Numisma's* better-known correspondents: A. R. S., Chicago (Arlie R. Slabaugh); H. F., Philadelphia (Harry Forman); A. M. K., Des Moines (Arthur M. Kagin); F. S., Bluefield, W. Va. (Frank Sprinkle); G. F., Cambridge (George Fuld); R. S. Y., Racine (one guess) et al.

*Numisma* expanded into mail bid sales, offering a range of affordable items of North American numismatics. Coins, currency, medals, tokens, literature, all could be purchased or bid upon through *Numisma*. One issue might feature a run of obsolete bank notes, another a collection of California fractional gold pieces. Occasional foreign material was included too. Not infrequently, census pieces turned up in *Numisma's* pages, such as stock #3865 (Breen, *Early U. S. Half Eagles*, 1798 var. 2-C, p. 18) and #3885 (Breen, *U. S. Half Eagles 1839-1929*, 1842D var. 1, p. 7).

Since *Numisma* had to abide Ford's many other duties, deadlines lagged and the Christmas issue sometimes arrived by Mother's Day. By 1958, Ford gave up trying to adhere to a regular schedule, enlarged the format and issued *Numisma* on an irregular basis. The final four issues were jumbo ones.

I've often thought it would be nice to have *Numisma* in book form, for portability and to keep individual issues from going astray. But it was not published to be bound; its inner and outer margins are extremely tight and do not lend themselves to trimming and sewing. Not to worry; *Numisma*, the book, is now available. Charles Davis has obtained Jon Hanson's few remaining sets and has done an excellent job of reproducing the missing issues, complete with color overlay, and carefully binding them so that every word is legible. How did he trim them? He didn't. The edges of the pages consequently aren't smooth, but no other binding method would have worked without risking severe damage.

Get *Numisma*, the book, for your library. It is over 400 pages in length and is priced at \$135.00, less than the most recent auction record for an unbound all-original set (Katen 78:902, \$155). There's no index, but this small volume is not difficult to search. It's enjoyable and still informative, and it comes with John Ford's autograph.

DAVID GLADFELTER



**IN MEMORY OF MY CLOSE FRIEND  
JACK COLLINS**

**Friends are forever, Thank you, Jack...**

For your friendship. For our many conversations through the years, both numismatic and personal, I thank you

Your visits to my home as well as my visits to yours will always be a source of fond memories

I'll always remember your visit during the Invasion of Louisville

A photo of you, John Bergman, Walter Breen, and myself brings back wonderful memories of the 1988 Long Beach show as Walter signs copy #1 of his Encyclopedia for me

Our enjoyable exchanges of numismatic literature over the years will not be forgotten. Without your help, I may not have had the opportunity to enjoy some very worthwhile numismatic items

Above all, without you, our hobby would have missed a great deal

We'll miss you, Jack Collins, but we'll always remember...

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The Mickley catalogue, never before reprinted, is now available having been made from the one priced copy sold publicly. To ensure the readability of the sometimes faint handwriting, we have transcribed the hammer prices and buyers' names to a printed prices realized list of 21 pages which is bound in after the Woodward text. The reprint is 224 pages which includes the important text on both wrappers, is slightly larger than the original at 6x9", and is well bound in blue cloth. While we expect delivery of the bound volumes September 1, the blue-line proofs will be available for inspection at the Denver A.N.A. Convention - Table 348. A printing of 115 copies is offered as follows.

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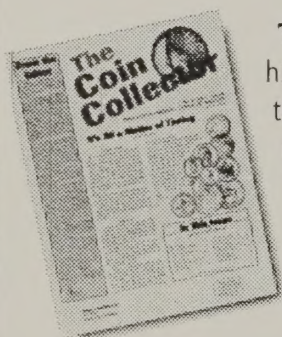


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